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THURSDAY, APRIL 23RD, 2015

**Cowbridge May Fair**

Bank Holiday Monday • May 4, 2015  
PREVIEW ON PAGES 18 & 19

**YOUR Sunday lunch GUIDE**  
Enjoy your time with family & friends

**Spring into Summer** Page 25

Assembly Government sells 98-acre site to house builder Persimmon as...

## 590 NEW HOMES ARE PLANNED AT COITY

THE Welsh Government confirmed this week that contracts have been exchanged for the sale of 98 acres of land to house builder Persimmon Homes to build 590 new homes at Parc Derwen, Coity. The land is primarily earmarked for residential development, including affordable

housing, while some land is earmarked for public open space, landscaping and buffer zones.

Economy Minister Edwina Hart AM said: "Releasing this site to the market will allow developers to deliver much-needed housing, including affordable provision, in line with the existing planning consent."

The development of the site is also anticipated to support some 75 full time construction jobs over five years."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 9)



Picture by MALCOLM NUGENT.  
(See more images on page 6).

## Ty Hafan's burst of colour brightens up Coney Beach!

AN explosion of colour filled Coney Beach in Porthcawl last Saturday, April 18, as 1,700 rainbow runners were showered from head to toe in vibrant powdered paint to raise funds for Ty Hafan, the hospice for children in Wales.

Runners started the event wearing white and crossed the finish line splattered in

orange, pink, green, blue, red and yellow paint.

The sold-out fundraiser, based on the Indian Holi festival of colour, is expected to raise more than £70,000 for Ty Hafan and the charity is now preparing for its Aberdare Rainbow Run.

Brook Maidment, who took part in memory of her son, Jayden, said: "Raising money for Ty Hafan is very close to my heart as they helped so much while I cared

for my very poorly son before he passed away. They were there throughout the good and the bad times and took a lot of pressure off my partner and I."

"Their care never stops and they still provide our family with support - from special days out, celebrations and memorial services. The work they do is just brilliant. Taking part and raising funds is my way of saying thank you to this amazing charity."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)



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# MEN'S GROUP WINS PRAISE FROM OLDER PEOPLE'S COMMISSIONER



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telephone **07541 982794**.  
[www.mandythomasphotography.co.uk](http://www.mandythomasphotography.co.uk)



## CAT WELFARE CHARITY WELCOMES DONATIONS



**THE Older People's Commissioner for Wales recently visited a local group, The Squirrel's Nest in Tondou, to see the work that is being done there to tackle isolation and depression in older men.**

Sarah Rochira, said: "It was a pleasure to meet members of The Squirrel's Nest men's group in Bridgend today to talk to them about the things that matter to them, and their experiences of growing older in Wales."

"The 'Men's Sheds' project is hugely important, particularly as there have traditionally been few activity or support groups aimed specifically at older men."

"It provides important opportunities for older men to take part in different activities, socialise and provide each other with support, all essential to help them to stay active and independent and avoid loneliness and

isolation.

"Men's Sheds is a great example of an initiative that is making a big difference to the lives of older men and I hope to see other similar groups established across Wales."

The international men's shed movement has only recently found its way onto Welsh soil and, while still in its early stages, The Association of Men's Sheds Cymru is being established to support the small number of existing sheds and to help communities across the country to set-up their own Men's Shed.

Regional advocates have been appointed and are now busy responding to interest coming from communities up and down the country.

Mark Bond, the regional advocate for south Wales said: "It really is a very exciting time for the Men's Sheds Movement in Wales. Everyone who hears about what we're doing instantly recognises the need, grasps the potential and invariably knows someone close to them who would relish the chance to join or set up

their own shed.

"What amazes me is the wealth of skills and experience among our older male population...everyone has something unique to offer and sheds are the perfect opportunity to share what you know with peers and future generations".

Robert from The Bridgend shed said: "I hope that the commissioner's visit will help towards highlighting the good work that goes on in this community project."

He hopes that The Squirrel's Nest profile will be raised more with the local authority and local health board.

He said: "While we have had much interest from national charities such as Prostate Cancer UK, Comic Relief and The Alzheimer's Society, to name but a few, there has been little engagement so far with Bridgend County Borough Council".

The Squirrels Nest can be contacted at The Squirrels Nest, Unit 38, Tondou Enterprise Centre, Bryn Road, Tondou, CF32 9BS, or on 01656 729625.



(From left) adoption centre deputy manager Kelly Matthews with Sofie Howard of NewLaw Solicitors and adoption centre manager Sue Dobbs.

**CAT PROTECTION'S Bridgend Adoption Centre is celebrating a large donation from NewLaw Solicitors after a supporter nominated them to receive a grant from her workplace.**

Sofie Howard, executive admin assistant at NewLaw's Cardiff office, nominated the adoption centre to receive a grant after adopting her own cats from the charity. The centre received a total of £1,010 to help cats in its care.

Sofie explained: "I decided to nominate Cats

Protection for the NewLaw grant as I have had two cats from the centre that have been such a big part of my life. I love them dearly.

"Bridgend Centre does such a fantastic job rehoming cats - and hearing how much it needs to raise each year was quite an eye opener.

"Hopefully many more cats will get new homes too, thanks to the work they do."

Some of the staff from the Cardiff office visited Bridgend Adoption Centre to present the cheque, have a tour and meet some of the cats currently available for rehoming.

### HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL APRIL 30)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 - 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
23 Thur	10.24	9.4	22.39	9.1
24 Fri	11.07	8.8	23.25	8.7
25 Sat	11.53	8.1		
26 Sun	00.17	7.9	12.44	7.7
27 Mon	01.24	7.5	14.11	7.4
28 Tues	02.47	7.7	15.29	7.7
29 Wed	03.59	7.8	16.33	7.9
30 Thur	04.54	8.2	17.19	8.4

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

We abide by the code of practice upheld by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). This contains provisions for issues such as accuracy.

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## Call goes out to the kitchen gardeners

**AMATEUR gardeners and allotment holders are being invited to show off their produce this year at Bridgend's biggest country fair.**

The Kitchen, Garden and Allotment Show will be part of the Bridgend County Show at Pencoed College (July 10-12).

Spokesman John Howley said: "Do you ever feel like entering one of those 'traditional' summer allotment and gardening shows but are put off by the idea of aggressive competition?"

"Are you restricted to a small back-garden or growing on a patio? Would you like to just take along whatever you or your family have grown and maybe share tips with fellow gardeners in a relaxed setting?"

"Would you like to taste some 'plot-

to-pot' food and sample home-made wine in the company of other like-minded folk?"

"If this is you, come along to the first-ever Bridgend Kitchen, Garden and Allotment Show.

"We welcome entries from vegetable growers, flower arrangers, bakers and makers, arts and crafters".

The County Show, of course, has something for everyone including:- trade stands, craft stalls, show jumping, dog show, poultry show, rabbits and goats - plus this new section.

John Howley said: "Programme, entry details and further information can be obtained by email ([ejohnhowley@btinternet.com](mailto:ejohnhowley@btinternet.com)).

"Please note that all profits from our part of the show will be donated to a local registered charity".

## Cor Bro Ogwr have spring in their step after concert!



## Scrambler bikes: Police launch clamp-down

PCSOs have teamed up with Coity Wallia Commons Project to tackle scrambler bike annoyance, and illegal motor vehicle anti-social behaviour, in and around Blackmill.

"There have been a number of reports of scramblers and quads being used in the area and police are appealing for the public's assistance in tackling the problem," said PCSO Carl Wesgate.

"We are aiming to crack down on scrambler bikes being ridden recklessly and anti-socially on the common land around the

Blackmill area. We are working with Coity Wallia Commons Project, and using their 'green machine' jeep, to target the areas where bikers gather and ride illegally.

"These gatherings cause annoyance and nuisance to people legitimately using and enjoying the countryside. There are powers in place to help us deal with offenders, including enforcement tools such as warning notices and powers to seize and crush bikes, which will be considered," he warned.

Call the police on 101 to report any instances of scrambler bike annoyance, including the time and place of illegal scrambling.

### CASTLE PLAYERS

BRIDGEND Castle Players will present their latest production 'An Evening of Entertainment' from this Saturday with three one-act plays - A Dog's Life by Pam Valentine, directed by Mark Davies; Care-free! written by Ieuan Briers and directed by Kiera Phillips, (both performed by the youth section) and One Careful Owner by H Connolly, directed by Martin Smidman.

Performances: April 25 at Cefn Cribwyr Community Centre, the Green Hall; May 8 at Aberkenfig Welfare Hall, doors open 7pm, curtain up 7.30pm; May 9 at Ogmere Vale Non-Political Club (all at 7.30pm). Tickets £6 each available beforehand through the Bridgend Castle Players' website, via the app for 'TicketSource' or on door.

## COR BRO OGWR certainly had a spring in their step after their recent concert in All Saints' Church.

Celebrating music from the Six Nations, the choir sang a variety of songs from the folk tradition, contemporary works and Puccini's 'Messa Di Gloria'.

Without our usual orchestra, our own accompanist, Glenn Crooks, demonstrated his talents on keyboard and organ.

We were fortunate to have two up and coming young Welsh soloists; Meilir Jones, baritone,

and Rhodri Prys Jones who delighted the audience with their duet 'Y Ddau Wlad Garwr', earning the applause before the last notes died away.

We are grateful to our loyal audience members for their support, and would be even happier to see some new faces at our next concert. We are also grateful to Father Masson, who always welcomes us in the church. The evening was made even more enjoyable by the interval refreshments!

Thanks also to Porthcawl Town Mayor, Coun Sean Aspey, who has attended all our

concerts during his year in office. We were delighted to see our president, Carwyn Jones, who was able to take time out from other pressing concerns.

We will be holding a fundraising event on Friday, April 24, at St Mary's Catholic Church Hall, Ewenny Road, at 7.30pm. One of our tenors, Mike Clubb, will be giving a talk entitled 'Escape from Island Farm.'

Mike is a lively speaker and has published a book on Island Farm. Tickets £3 at the door. The evening is open to all. Our next concert will be on July 11.

DOMINIQUE SPEAREY

## Huw looks at history of the London Welsh

IN a new three-part series on S4C starting this Sunday, Huw Edwards a'r Cymry Estron: Stori Cymry Llundain, Huw Edwards takes a look at the history of Welsh people living in London.

What influence have the Welsh had on one of the world's biggest capital cities and how has London influenced the

life of Wales and the Welsh?

Huw Edwards was born in Bridgend and brought up in Llangennech but has lived with his wife and five children in London for many years.

An active member of the London Welsh community, he finds the history of the Welsh in London fascinating.

He said: "The story of the London Welsh is relevant to anyone who is interested in the history of Wales. One of the most important elements is the religion of the Welsh living in London.

"I spent five years researching and ploughing through the history of the Welsh chapels and churches in the city.

"This was a project and a half."

The documentary begins with the story of Henry Tudor and his soldiers from Wales.

Modern-day societies also come under the spotlight, such as London Welsh, which promotes Wales and has a centre in the heart of London.

Historians and politicians including Lord John Morris, Dr Prys Morgan and Dr Eryn White contribute to the series, as well as those who have made their home in London.

Huw Edwards a'r Cymry Estron: Stori Cymry Llundain is on Sunday evening, April 26, 8pm, S4C.

## Man is jailed for sexual offences against children

A MAN has been jailed for more than 13 years, following a number of sexual offences against young children.

William Blower (66) from Maesteg, was sentenced on Thursday, April 16 for seven counts of indecent assault on a child and two offences of indecency with a child. He has been placed on the Sex Offenders Register for life.

The offences occurred between July 1971 and April 1984.

Investigating officer DC Rebecca Merchant said: "William Blower's offending spanned 13 years and was of the most serious degree.

He deliberately took advantage of children in order to satisfy his own sexual gratification.

"The victims have been haunted by what William Blower did to them for over 40 years, and they are still suffering the psychological effects of his actions.

"We want to take this opportunity to



WILLIAM BLOWER.

thank the victims and witnesses in this case for showing tremendous bravery in coming forward after such a long time, and then giving evidence against him.

"It is down to their courage, and their

courage alone, that he is now facing a long time behind bars."

DC Merchant added: "South Wales Police always takes every allegation of sexual abuse extremely seriously.

"We hope this conviction serves as an important message to people who have been the victim of crimes such as these that they can come forward regardless of when the offence occurred.

"If you have been a victim, or know someone who has been, please get in touch with us on 101, and help us bring the offender to justice."

## SPATE OF CAR THEFTS

POLICE are warning residents to ensure their vehicles are properly secured, and valuable items removed, after a spate of thefts in Bridgend.

Thefts from parked cars – most of them unlocked – have been reported at various locations in the area. Most were targeted overnight.

"If you see anyone paying attention to parked cars, or even trying door handles, call South Wales Police on 999 immediately," Sgt Mark Simmonds urged.

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# Regional AM issues warning over seafront parking charges

**SHADOW Welsh Tourism Minister, Suzy Davies, says she has been informed by Bridgend County Borough Council that they intend to press ahead with plans to introduce car parking charges along the seafront in Porthcawl.**

Mrs Davies, a Welsh Conservative regional AM, contacted the council to find out the status of a consultation that was carried out into the plans. Letters were sent by the council to 1,000 householders and businesses in the town.

Mrs Davies says she has been told, following a series of questions to the council, that these letters constituted the formal consultation and the council is now

proceeding to the next step which is to advertise the proposal to introduce these charges as well as plans for residents' parking.

If objections are subsequently received by the council, there may be modifications made to the plan but if this does not resolve the objections, it will be referred to the council's Appeal Panel.

Mrs Davies said: "I understand the need to stop people using the sea front as an all-day free car park but the trick will be to avoid proposals which go too far the other way. A clumsy charging policy for the seafront could have a detrimental effect on the cafes and coffee shops in the town."

"As well as locals who drive into town, many people visit Porthcawl seafront throughout the year to

have a look at the sea and enjoy a coffee or ice cream.

"My worry is that this plan, while giving income to the council, may reduce income for tourist-dependent businesses."

"When the council first discussed this proposal, it was stated that they would introduce a free first half hour along the seafront and also in the John Street car park."

"It is unclear if they intend to proceed with this but, as I said at the time, half an hour is not long enough for pop-in shopping, particularly for anyone with mobility problems or managing a pushchair and another child. It needs to be at least an hour to be of value to traders."

"Councils have been warned by the High Court that they should not use car parking charges as a cash cow. It would be easier for Porthcawl residents to accept these charges if all the profits were specifically committed to improving parking facilities in the town – not the rest of the borough."

"As for the effect on tourism, the council will need to consider the impact of rival destinations. Neighbouring Neath Port Talbot Council scrapped the introduction of parking charges on Aberavon seafront after protests from residents and traders so parking there remains free."

## Mayor wishes cast well as they head over the rainbow!

*Some of the cast with Coun Sean Aspey. The two Dorothys are Ciera Johnson (holding Toto's lead) and Olivia Hopper (holding the ruby slipper).*

Photos by  
**KEITH E MORGAN**

**P O R T H C A W L** Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society (PAODS) are performing their latest show, *The Wizard of Oz*, at the Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl.

The show opens tonight (Thursday, 7.30pm) and there will be four performances in total, on Friday (7.30pm) and two on Saturday, April 25, (2.30pm and 7.30pm).

The Mayor of Porthcawl, Coun Sean Aspey, dropped into a rehearsal to wish the cast well, and he discovered that two young actresses, Olivia Hopper and Ciera Johnson, will be sharing the role of Dorothy, made famous in the 1939 film by Judy Garland.



**RIGHT: The Mayor with (left to right): Ryan Jenkins (Lion); Adrian Thomas (Scarecrow) and Joe Walters (Tin Man). Adrian Thomas was recently nominated for a NODA regional (Wales and Ireland) award for his performance as Carmen in last year's show, The Producers.**



**ABOVE: The Mayor with cast members (left to right): Ceri Millar (Wicked Witch of the West); Laura Hart (Gilda); and Rhys Taylor (Wizard of Oz).**

## Who wants to build what and where?

Ms Louise Pugh – 67 **John Street, Porthcawl** – Change of use from shop to mixed A1/A3 coffee shop with new shop front and outdoor seating.

Mr David Williams – **Glynogwr Lodge, Ty Pentwyn, Glynogwr** – Erect two log cabin holiday units for mountain bike/walking and general countryside pursuits.

Mrs Susan Owen – 17 **Fulmar Road, Nottage** – Rear single storey extension and a new front porch.

Mr Owen Carter – 56 **Woodland Park, Kenfig Hill** – Proposed new front porch/extension.

Mr G Dower – **Land rear of Dale View, Cefn Cribwr** – Proposed detached 1.5 storey dwelling with integral garage.

Mr D Llewellyn – **Ton Bach Farmhouse, Minffrwd Road, Pencoed** – Roof extension and removal of rear single storey annex. Mr William Pugh – **Land at Bwlch y Clawdd, northeast of Ogmere Valley, Bridgend** – Erect a 50kw wind turbine at 38m to hub and 45m diameter blades (in BCBC) and associated switchgear/cabling (in RCT).

Mr Glyn Martin – 18 **Priory Oak, Brackla** – Two storey rear extension.

Mr P Williams – 90 **The Spinney, Brackla** – Two storey side extension to provide additional living and bedroom

accommodation and associated internal alterations.

Mr Tony Ulberini – 27 **Heol Castell, Cefn Cribwr** – Two storey extension to side, single storey extension to rear and detached garage.

Mr Keith Turner – 83A **Meadow Lane, Porthcawl** – First storey bedroom and walk in wardrobe extension.

BCBC Property Department – **School House, Merlyn Crescent, Cefn Glas** – Create new pedestrian and vehicular access to dwelling and new close boarded timber boundary fence.

Mr Mike King – 8 **Tyddyn Gwaun, Laleston** – Two storey rear extension, sunroom to ground floor with accommodation above.

Ford Motor Company – **Waterton Industrial Estate, Bridgend** – Substation enclosure in relation to planning permission P/13/719/FUL (wind turbine).

Iceni Projects Ltd – **Ford Motor Company, Waterton Industrial Estate, Bridgend** – Install 3m high acoustic close boarded fence on the landscaping bund.

Valleys to Coast Housing – 18-42 **Lakeview Close, Porthcawl** – Internal alterations to main entrance and communal areas, external works and upgrades to kitchen extensions.

## Torpedoed by a German U-boat

**NEWTON WI NEWS**

**IN our April meeting, we were privileged to have as our guest speaker Captain David Cledlyn Jones, who at 91 years of age, has a most remarkable**

**memory.**

He talked about his experiences during World War Two, how when aged only 17, he was on board the freighter *Quebec City* when it was torpedoed by a German U-boat.

He led a very adventurous life, which he has written an account of, entitled *'The Enemy We Killed, My Friend'*. It was a most enthralling talk.

Our meeting ended with an Easter bonnet parade. What a fine display of hats, all beautifully put together by our members. The winner was Janet Moseley.

In March, we held a fashion show, courtesy of Bon Marche, Bridgend, when six of our ladies wowed us with their modelling skills, showing off the outfits to great advantage.

For further information regarding Newton WI, call Pearl on 01656 772657.

**M Freeman.**

## Coychurch WI plans the diary

**Coychurch WI's April meeting opened with president Sandra Davidson welcoming guest Sue Rees and listing business.**

There is a lunch and fashion show at the Norton House Hotel, Mumbles, on April 27, with the coach leaving Williams Memorial Hall at 10am.

The Christmas dinner which will take place on December 8 at the Bear in Cowbridge.

A special WI royal garden party will be held on June 2, hosted by the Duchess of Cornwall; Ann Davies and Jean Jakeaway will be guest representatives.

Afternoon tea and croquet have been organised at the Coed Y Mwster on July 1 as part of Coychurch WI

centennial celebrations, with ladies encouraged to 'dress up' in outfits from the past 100 years. Defibrillator training will be in the Williams Memorial Hall: Ann Harper and Val Moore were nominated.

The meeting concluded with Janet Israel a nurse/midwife and lecturer at Cardiff University giving a talk titled 'Know your Numbers'.

The next meeting is the annual and resolutions meeting on May 5 at 7.30pm, the resolution being 'Failing to Care – Assessment of Need in Long Term Care'.

For details and further information on future events, contact Sandra Davidson on 01656 669232. Guests and new members welcome.

**SE**

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# Hard pressed ambulance service's appeal to time wasters... 'Don't call 999 unless it's a real medical emergency!'

**THE over-stretched Welsh Ambulance Service is urging people not to call 999 unless it is a real emergency.**

The service took 19,151 calls which operators classified as non-urgent in the last seven months – just 318 of these required an ambulance – and none resulted in a patient being taken to hospital.

One woman called 999 because her athlete's foot infection had worsened, and a man wanted dental work for two broken teeth!

**Other examples of time-wasting calls were:**

'Athlete's foot infection – worsened,' August

2014, Conwy.

'Two cotton buds stuck in ear,' November 2014, Cardiff.

'Dancing too much – sprained ankle,' September 2014, Llandudno.

'Got two broken teeth – wants dental work,' December 2014, Dolgellau.

'Tried to eat a scotch bonnet chilli pepper, face burning,' October 2014, Pontypool.

'Male feeling knackered,' September 2014, Abergale.

'Hasn't had any food since yesterday and feeling

sick,' December 2014, Pentre (Rhonda Cynon Taf).

'Has trouble to walk, blisters on feet,' August 2014, Cardiff.

'Had tooth out and now in pain,' November 2014, Pontypridd.

Richard Lee, the Ambulance Trust's head of clinical services, said: "The Trust is taking steps to ensure that patients only travel to hospital when absolutely necessary and are referred on to the right part of NHS Wales where this is safe and clinically appropriate.

"While the majority of calls we receive via 999 are entirely appropriate, we also take some non-essential calls from people with colds, toothache, back ache and other minor conditions.

"Calls of this type put people's lives at risk as the ambulance attending that patient is not available for a serious road accident, heart attack or stroke.

"For advice and treatment of most illnesses, visit your GP, or call NHS Direct Wales on 0845 46 47 for confidential health advice and information. NHS Direct Wales is available 24 hours a day, 365 days per year.

"Please remember to only dial 999 in a life-threatening emergency, if someone is seriously ill or injured or their life is at risk."

## WRITE A WILL – and support Ty Hafan

**GIFTS in Wills change lives. For Ty Hafan they are vital in providing care and support to children with short lives all across south Wales.**



They are essential in supporting families like the Puccellas from Bridgend: Luca Pucella is a happy, energetic eight-year-old with an infectious laugh and a wicked sense of humour. But what makes Luca different to other boys of his age is that he suffers from a rare life-limiting condition called ROHHAD syndrome.

He is the only person in Wales to suffer from the condition, which affects only 75 people worldwide. ROHHAD syndrome causes rapid-onset obesity, impairment of the autonomic nervous system and reduced lung function.

Angelo, Luca's dad, said: "When Luca was first diagnosed, we felt very much on our own."

But the family felt a huge sense of relief when they were referred to Ty Hafan in 2010.

"Ty Hafan has always been there on the other end of the phone, they've visited us in hospital and provided vital short-break care."

Gifts in Wills is a crucial source of funding for Ty Hafan, and in fact fund 20 per cent of the care the charity provides. Without Gifts in Wills, the children's hospice simply couldn't support as many families.

Thanks to the support of over 25 solicitors from across south Wales, Ty Hafan is running its Write a Will scheme again this year.

Between May 11 and 22, the team of solicitors has agreed to waive the usual will-writing fee, and ask that you make a suggested donation of £50 for a Simple Will or £75 for Mirror Wills to Ty Hafan instead.

To find out more about the scheme, visit [www.tyhafan.org/will50](http://www.tyhafan.org/will50) or call 029 2053 2255.

## 'If writing was in English we would know what it meant' Black and white flag in Main Street puzzles residents



**LEFT:**

The mystery flag was suspended outside an empty flat in Main Street.

**REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN**

**RESIDENTS in a street in Barry woke up on Monday morning wondering whether an ISIS flag had been raised above an empty shop.**

The black and white flag had been put up overnight and people were puzzled as to what the writing on it meant.

A local resident, who did not want to be named in the paper, said: "When people walked past it they were wondering whether it was an ISIS flag."

"I went out for a walk on Monday morning and saw it as I returned. Someone said to me: 'Is it an ISIS flag?'"

"Black and white seems to represent ISIS."

"Someone claimed the words meant 'Peace and love', but without an English translation on the flag we don't know."

The man said putting up the flag without people knowing its meaning was not being responsible.

"This area is a melting pot and everyone gets on. I have Welsh friends who have converted (to Islam) – they might not be able to read it themselves and be concerned. People get along here and we don't want problems."

He said that if it was an Islamic flag, he wondered whether the Welsh flag would be welcomed in an Islamic country.

A local trader said: "I understand it was put up at 12.30am on

Monday morning. People locally were shocked to see it. If it had been in English people would have known what it meant.

"We don't know whether it is aggressive or peaceful. People have been discussing it in the street."

Rita Limbrick, who has won a major community award for south Wales and who runs the a local multicultural meeting place and cafe, said she had been in touch with a local Muslim who had been able to translate what was on the flag.

"It says 'Islam is one'. They should have put it up in English so people would understand and not panic."

"I came out of my house at 9.30am and people began to approach me because I am the local community person."

The GEM understands the flat has been empty, and that the estate agent dealing with it was informed about the flag. It was removed on Monday afternoon.

A South Wales Police spokesman told The GEM: "We received reports concerning a flag on display on a building in Main Street, Barry."

"Officers attended the scene and it was quickly established that the flag did not contain any inflammatory messages. The flag has now been removed."

## Candidate highlights local litter problem



**REGIONAL Conservative AM Suzy Davies is backing calls from Pencoed residents for action to deal with litter at a popular parking area.**

Mrs Davies visited the area off Penprysg Road with Jane March, who is the party's candidate for Ogmore in the general election.

Mrs March alerted Suzy to the problem. She said: "I was approached by residents while I was in the area who were concerned about the accumulation of rubbish in this parking area which leads onto the Coity Wallia Common."

"It is obvious that people parking there are tossing cans, crisp packets and similar litter out of their car windows. They are asking if a bin can be placed there and for the

area to be cleared."

Suzy Davies said: "I am not yet clear who owns this parcel of land but the council still has certain responsibilities for the local environment. I am curious to know what enforcement action the council has considered taking if the land is privately owned."

"Council taxpayers living nearby have to put up with its unsightliness as well as the vermin risk."

"I have written to the council to urge them to organise a clearance as they do for other areas prone to fly tipping. But to prevent this recurring, a large bin should be placed there."

"That would be cheaper in the long run than the cost of sending in workmen to clear the site periodically," she added.

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yr hosbisi i blant yng Nghymru

# RAINBOW RUN ATTRACTS 1,700 RUNNERS TO PORTHCAWL FOR A COLOURFUL DAY

**PHOTOGRAPHS by  
MALCOLM NUGENT**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

Mair Kinsey, marketing and events officer at Tŷ Hafan, said: "We aim to make the very most of the precious moments that life-limited children and their families have together – that's why we think the Rainbow Run is the perfect way to celebrate and support the work we do."

"It was a fantastic day and we are thrilled that so many people supported Tŷ Hafan by having some colourful fun on the beach. We'd like to say a big thank you to Coney Beach Amusement Park for hosting the event for the second year, and to our army of volunteers for making the event possible."

The charity would also like to thank Jane Hodge Foundation and Princes Gate Water for their support and Peter Lynn Solicitors, Coney Beach Amusement Park, South Wales Wood Recycling and J&J Motors for kindly sponsoring paint stations along the route.

This year the charity is holding Rainbow Runs at Dare Valley Country Park, Aberdare, on July 18 and also in Pendine Sands on September 26.

To register for the Aberdare Rainbow Run, go to [www.rainbowrunwales.co.uk](http://www.rainbowrunwales.co.uk) or call 029 2053 2282 for more information.



*'Nobody forecast clouds today!'*



## GEM Readers' Letters

### 'No admirer of Stalin'

**I**N response to the letter from S Fackrell headed 'Stalin was also an evil despot' (The GEM, April 9), I have never been, nor will be, an admirer of Stalin.

I do, however, give thanks for the sacrifices made by the armed forces and people of the Soviet Union. Without their sacrifices, the struggle against Nazism would have been considerably longer and, possibly, unsuccessful.

This is not to belittle every nation and resistance movement that also fought the evil Nazi regime.  
**Christopher Short, Barry.**

### Airport needs business sense

**R**EADING about Cardiff Airport in The GEM (April 16) I felt quite dismayed, but not surprised that £80 million of taxpayers' money has been thrown at this airport.

Usually, when a business is not paying, it can be bought for £1 then invested into to try and make it pay. This airport is just soaking up millions to make pounds.

There's a bus which runs around all day virtually empty as well.

It is a shame, as this ought to be 'The' airport for Wales, so that people do not have to travel all the way to Bristol, a journey which I, personally, hate when just a few miles away there's my airport.

In England, they have had rates frozen for the last two years, whereas ours just keep going up and up – to pay for schemes like this, I suppose.

The Welsh Government is in need of someone with business sense not to throw away our hard earned cash.

**AJ Atkins, Sully.**

### Inconsiderate dog walker

**I**APPLAUD the Paws on Patrol initiative in Bridgend (GEM, last week) but there are still inconsiderate dog walkers.

My son is a groundsman who was working one day in Newbridge fields, when a lady dog walker came along and threw a dog poo bag into the hedge.

My son asked her politely if she would take it to a bin or take it home. She told him to "\*\*\*\* off" and walked away.

I hope your patrol comes across her in their walks, throwing dog faeces into the hedge.  
**M Jones, Pencoed.**



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# PYLE AND PORTHCAWL PHOTO SOCIETY'S AWARDS EVENING



*Alan Thomas Trophy presentation.*



*Trevor Owen – Jackdaw.*

**PYLE and Porthcawl Photographic Society held its annual Alan Thomas Memorial Trophy competition on Thursday, April 16, at the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel in Porthcawl.**

The competition consisted of up to four monochrome images (prints or digital images) from each entrant.

The winner was the photographer with the highest aggregate score for their two top scoring images.

Jennifer Cox judged the competition, and not only awarded the marks, but also provided an

excellent critique on each image.

It was a very good competition. The winner was Trevor Owen, with 38 points for his images 'Transporter Bridge' and 'Jackdaw'.

Two photographers (Martyn Derbyshire and Glyn Edmunds) shared second place with 36 points.

Two other photographers (John Corcoran and Geoff Baker) shared third place with 35 points.

Congratulations to Trevor on winning the competition and a big thank you to all who participated, for making it such an interesting and entertaining evening.

**GLYN EDMUNDS**

## 'Shared Lives' scheme launched in the borough

**CARE organisation 'ategi' has been appointed to manage a regional 'Shared Lives' scheme for vulnerable people living in Bridgend county borough and two other neighbouring local authorities.**

'Shared Lives' is a scheme that involves carers forming long-term bonds to support people with needs including learning disabilities, physical disabilities, substance misuse, mental health, brain injury and dementia.

BCBC, Neath Port Talbot Council and the City and County of Swansea had previously delivered their own individual Shared Lives schemes but the three local authorities, who make up the Western Bay region, identified the

potential to collaborate on a joint service with an external partner providing it on their behalf.

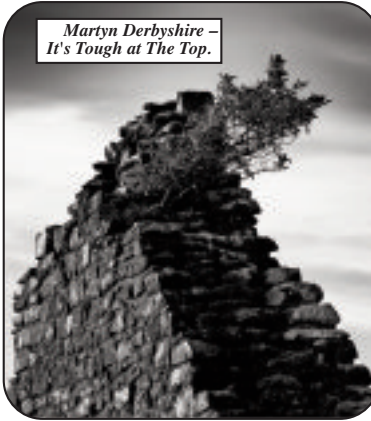
Coun Lyn Morgan, Bridgend County Borough Council's cabinet member for wellbeing, said: "We are looking forward to working on this expanded service with our new partners ategi, who have excellent experience in successfully managing the Shared Lives scheme elsewhere."

"There are around 80 Shared Lives carers in the county borough who provide a mix of daytime support, short term breaks, and, on occasions, long term accommodation and support."

"Lifelong bonds are formed thanks to this scheme, with vulnerable people given outstanding support and treated as though they are part of the family."



*Geoff Baker – 76 seconds at Marloes.*



*Martyn Derbyshire – It's Tough at The Top.*



*John Corcoran – The Boardwalk.*



*Glyn Edmunds – A Pair of Meerkats*



*Trevor Owen – Transporter Bridge.*

## Green Party candidates are announced

**THE Green Party has announced its candidates for the Ogmere and Bridgend constituencies.**

Veteran Green Party activists Laurie Brophy (Ogmere) and Tony White (Bridgend) are standing for election on May 7.

Laurie Brophy – one of the local party's longest-standing members – is a retired teacher who has lived in Pencoed for over 40 years.

He has volunteered for many years at the Parc Slip

nature reserve and organises cross-country events for local schools. This summer he is walking the length of Offa's Dyke for the charity Y Bont.

Tony White is also retired, having spent his working life in the transport sector. Sustainable transport is one of his passions, as is renewable energy.

The candidates and their team can be contacted by email at [ogmoregreencandidate@outlook.com](mailto:ogmoregreencandidate@outlook.com) and [bridgendgreencandidate@outlook.com](mailto:bridgendgreencandidate@outlook.com)

## FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY

**JOIN Horeb Baptist Chapel, at Dinam Close, Nantymoel, CF32 7PU for Fellowship Sunday services at 11am and 2pm.**

There will be a meal between services; no evening service. Call Pastor Chris Bluto for details, 01443-675424, or email [chris\\_bluto@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:chris_bluto@yahoo.co.uk).

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# YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE COMMUNITY NEWS

## CENTRAL CHURCH, MAESTEG

**A charity concert raised funds for Parkinson's Disease, Maesteg on Friday, when entertainment was provided by the Maesteg Gleemen male voice choir.**

Marian Rogers, vice chair of the charity, was full of praise for the choir, who had voluntarily given up their free time.

The choir was conducted by musical director Alun Hodges, and the concert started with a lovely Welsh song, followed by a classic Ivor Novello song, to a special arrangement by the choir's accompanist Suzanne Hodges, of 'My Dearest, Dear'.

Anthony Bywe, a tenor in the choir was MC and also sang a solo part in 'Anfonaf Angel', which the Welsh Ambulance Service has as its anthem.

There was a special announcement by Anthony Bywe after the choir had completed the song 'The Rose' dedicated to Hector Evans.

He was a founder member of the choir Cŵr Meibion Maesteg a'r Cylch (Maesteg and District male voice choir) and his funeral had taken place the day before.

Condolences were offered to his friends and family.

During the concert birthday greetings were sung to Bernard, a member of the charity on his 60th birthday.

The concert concluded with the Welsh national anthem 'Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau' and Marian Rogers thanking everyone for supporting Parkinson's Disease charity.

The Maesteg

Gleemen rehearse at the British Legion Club, Commercial Street, Maesteg on Monday and Thursday evenings from 7pm to 8.30pm; visitors and new members welcome.

## Rising stars

Members of Pontycymer Tennis Club are offering free tennis lessons to children under 13 between 5pm and 6pm; and 14 to adults from 6pm on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings by the registered lawn tennis coach Glyn Walters.

The club is located by Park Street, Pontycymer, and asks for a small donation of £1.50 to replace damaged tennis balls and strings on the racquets. For more information, telephone Glyn on 01656 870955.

## Congratulations

**PAT LEWIS** from Brynmynyn, celebrated her 80th birthday last Sunday – and as Roy Noble of BBC Radio Wales announced – this event deserved three days of celebrations! Pat has been awarded the Bridgend CBC Mayor's volunteers award for her efforts with various voluntary organisations. Related happy birthday Pat.

**Aberkenfig WI** EUNICE Williams, president, opened the recent meeting by welcoming the members, and birthday greetings were sung to Pat, aged 80.

Eunice then made an appeal for members to consider standing for the committee at the AM next month.

The newsletter was gone through and several items noted: 16 members will be attending the council meeting in Port Talbot; five members will be attending 'Singing for Fun' in Port Talbot; the

list for the garden party in Margam went around and entrance money was collected.

The speaker for the afternoon, Audrey Griffiths, gave a talk entitled 'Keeping the Home Fires Burning', from the period 1915 to the end of the 1914-18 war.

Audrey had written a story that followed a family through the First World War years. Eunice gave the vote of thanks.

Dorothy Thomas and Gillian Williams won the raffle and the competition for an old book was won by Dilys Mitchell, with a prayer book dated 1875.

Visitors and new members are always welcome at Aberkenfig WI. The next meeting will be the annual meeting at 2pm on May 13 at the Len Evans Centre, Heol Persondy, Aberkenfig.

For further information, telephone Dilys on 01656 725399 or visit [www.cobwebs.co.uk](http://www.cobwebs.co.uk).

## Garden Club

**LALESTON Garden Club** is holding its annual plant sale and coffee morning at 'Cliff' cottage, High Street, adjacent to Laleston parish church on Saturday, May 9 between 10am and 12 noon.

The club invites the public to come along and listen to a talk by Don Knight.

He will be recounting his experiences when building his Japanese style garden, on Monday, May 11 at 7.30pm in 'Cliff' cottage.

The club has a thriving ladies' section which meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month in the same venue at 7.30pm; new members welcome.

## Tynyrheol primary

**AS a governor, I was pleased to be informed last Friday that this small enterprising school had just been issued with its third green eco flag.**

The Eco Schools assessor had been very impressed with the school's enthusiastic and knowledgeable eco-committee.

It had produced data sheets, which gave an excellent analysis of data which would help in its future action plans. The school was involved in creative events, such as the Forest Stewardship Council on Fridays.

Children were encouraged to recycle toys they no longer played with and had been to Betws primary school to cook meals in the school's kitchen.

## NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

*A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:*

*If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.*

*I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.*

**Contact details: CLIVE MITCHELL**  
1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ  
TEL: 01656 725399

email: [tynycod1@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:tynycod1@yahoo.co.uk)



## Mynydd Cynffig WI

**THE president, Marjorie Goode, welcomed members and chaired the meeting on April 14 in the usual venue The Talbot Centre, Kenfig Hill.**

The minutes of the previous meeting were read out by the secretary Enid Rymmer and were agreed by the members.

Details of forthcoming events were discussed.

Several members are going to the centenary garden party in the Margam orangery in July.

With WI business over, the speaker, Mr Davies, gave a talk on 'Weird Wills' which was interesting and enlightening.

A vote of thanks was given by Marjorie. Next month's meeting on May 12 is the WI's annual meeting, so there will be no speaker.

The speaker in June is Mr Dean Powell and his topic is Doctor William Price, a talk that should be very interesting.

## Tondu primary

**MRS Susan Pilcher congratulates pupils at Tondu Primary School who will be treated to tea at Brynagarw Country Park tomorrow (April 24) at 2pm. They had the distinction of attaining the most points for their good manners in their classes last term.**

Mrs Ashton's class Afan: Darcie Hayes, Dallas Ludlow-Huntley.

Mrs Jones/Mrs Goldsworthy's class Cynffig: Lily Parfitt, Isaac Reardon.

Mrs Richards/Mrs Goldsworthy's class Ewenni: Evan Dare, Ben Featham.

Mrs Pugh's class Garw: Gracie Mai Sage, Ben Thomas.

Mr Thomas' class Llynfi: Chase Owen, Ella Williams.

Miss Davies' class Ogwr: Jessica Evans, Daniel Trebble.

Miss Hopkins' class Rhondda: Kacey Floyd, Luke Thomas.

Miss Jones/ Miss Mahoney's class Taf: Leiana Mai Darks, Lauren Davies.

Mr Lewis's class Usk: Mya-Paige Fahey, Kelsie Mably.

The school's Citizenship Award

ceremony takes place in Aberkenfig Bible Church (Old Lyric Cinema), Heol Persondy on July 13.

The school is holding a Tondy Toddlers session on Wednesday mornings from 9.45am to 11.45am in the Heol Pandy building in Aberkenfig for you to bring your child along.

**Bryncethin WI** TWO members of this newly-formed WI created a banner to be paraded and blessed at recent centenary celebrations at Llandaff Cathedral.

The members would like to thank Lesley Russell and Sarah Webb for their efforts in completing the banner in 20 hours.

The WI is holding a cake and craft table sale on May 21, from 7pm to 9pm at Bryncethin Memorial Hall opposite the primary school, to which the public are invited.

## Church services

**ON Sunday, April 26** Horeb Baptist Chapel in Dinam Close, Nantymoel is holding a fellowship day to which members of the public are invited, with services at 11am and 2pm and a meal between. There will be no evening service that day.

For more details, telephone Pastor Chris Bluto on 01443 675424; e-mail [chris\\_bluto@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:chris_bluto@yahoo.co.uk)

## St John's church, Aberkenfig

**ON Saturday, April 25** members of the parish of Llansantffraid, Aberkenfig and Betws have organised a singsong with a high tea at the church at 3pm. Tickets £6, available at the church. Everyone welcome.



The Bryncethin WI banner: on left is Lesley Russell, designer and producer of banner; on right, Teresa Ree.



Sarah Webb, the other designer and producer of the Bryncethin WI banner.



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# How The Jam Fund is helping sick children after Christmas release of 16 red balloons

IN memory of Jamie Adamson, who inspired The Jam Fund, his father Paul released 16 red balloons at his son's resting place on Christmas Day.

The fund has raised more than £400,000 and helped numerous youngsters suffering from ill health, as well as providing support for their families.

Paul hoped the balloons would seek out other youngsters across the country who needed help.

He said: "When I released the balloons last Christmas Day, I attached tags with a hand written note on each one asking whoever found one to contact me by e-mail and the charity would try and help any child that they wished to nominate."

"The first was discovered in Somerset near Glastonbury on Boxing Day by Tina James. I am currently trying to find a child to donate to in that area."

"The second was found on March 17 in a back garden in Wimbourne, Dorset, by a lady called Nicola Price."

"Nicola has a friend who also runs a leukaemia charity and we are liaising to find a child there to help."

The next balloon triggered a surprising coincidence.

Paul explained: "The third balloon was found in Ferndown Woods, Dorset. This is extremely coincidental because this is where Suzy Charman, The Jam Fund's official runner in the London Marathon, works on a daily basis."

"I think the odds that a balloon would find its way to within a few hundred metres of Suzy, over 75 miles away, in a straight line is incredible!"

"The lady who found

by GEM REPORTER



Sara Farrow with the red balloon tag she found.

the balloon is called Sara Farrow. She had cancer three years ago and is originally from the Isle of Wight.

"Sara nominated a little girl named Perri who is currently in Bristol Children's Hospital having undergone some very traumatic treatment against cancer."

"Perri's mum and aunt have requested The Jam Fund finances a 'Princess bedroom makeover' for Perri as a surprise before she gets home, which we are now in the process of doing."

"In addition a fourth balloon was found in the Bournemouth area, a distance of 75 miles, by a lady named Yvonne Thomas."

"As Suzy has already raised over £1,700 we will be donating to Perri and another two children in the Bournemouth area. I think the odds of a balloon ending up so close where The Jam Fund runner works are huge and I like to believe Jamie had a say in it."

Recently, the fund has been helping families who have suffered the pain of losing young

children.

Paul said: "We are in the process of financing three headstones for local children and hope it will bring some comfort to the parents and families concerned."

"The charity is also donating £1,000 to a local little boy who is suffering from muscular dystrophy and we are donating this towards a scaled-down petrol-driven jeep vehicle which he can drive."

"I want to also thank Paul Mitchel from

Penarth, who has run in the Cardiff half marathon in the past for the charity and is now also running in this year's London Marathon, having got into the event through his running club Penarth and Dinas Runners."

## DESTINY

Suzy, The Jam Fund's runner, told The GEM: "I am so pleased that I have so far been able to raise just over £1,700 for this super charity."

"I have been running for about three years now and the marathon has always been a goal. I was lucky enough to be introduced to Paul via a mutual friend."

"I have to say that I have really enjoyed my marathon training much more than I thought despite the early starts on cold, dark mornings and the lack of wine!"

"The amazing part of this story is that three of Paul's balloons made their way to my home county of Dorset, and two of them ended up only minutes from my place of work. It has to be destiny!"

Suzy takes part in the London Marathon on Sunday, April 26.

For more on The Jam Fund go to: [www.jamfund.co.uk/](http://www.jamfund.co.uk/); or email: [jamfund@sky.com](mailto:jamfund@sky.com).



Suzy Charman, who is running the London Marathon on behalf of The Jam Fund.



Paul releasing the 16 red balloons.

## New homes

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Improvements in the housing market over the last 12 months had meant there was strong interest in the site and following a "competitive bidding process", contracts have been exchanged with Persimmon Homes Limited, which has already built 396 houses at Parc Derwen.

Huw Llewellyn, managing director at Persimmon Homes West Wales, said: "We are

pleased to announce our expansion and recruitment plans for the Parc Derwen site, which demonstrates our desire to invest in Wales and to support economic growth."

"Parc Derwen's convenient midway location between the cities of Swansea and Cardiff, along with the thriving town of Bridgend, as well as a wide range of amenities, means this is one of our most sought-after developments in South Wales."

Parc Derwen, a 210-acre site at Coity, has been developed over the past seven years as part of a consortium agreement between the Welsh Government, Persimmon Homes Limited and Taylor Wimpey Developments Limited.

Planning permission has been approved for the construction of a total of 1,500 residential units, with approximately 450 homes built to date.

The land being sold by the Welsh Government includes a 4.5 acre District Centre where likely uses could, according to the development brief, include a health centre, a place of worship, a public house/restaurant together with neighbourhood shops, post office and related car parking.

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# Vale parliamentary candidates explain why they should be elected the local MP on May 7



by **ALAN ARMSTRONG,**  
**THE GREEN PARTY**

Global warming could have devastating effects for future generations. To avoid this requires urgent action, otherwise, within 50 years, the UK could face catastrophic consequences. Concern for future generations is the reason I am standing in this election.

The Green Party is the only party that appreciates the need for radical change. The party has a cohesive set of policies designed to achieve a sustainable society characterised by social justice, a fair distribution of resources, and based on a clean-energy economy.

On a personal note, I have had a long career in social work. I am skilled at helping people resolve problems. As your MP, I would work hard to address the problems that adversely affect your well-being.

If you share my concerns for the future, and want an MP who will raise these concerns at the highest level, while meeting the needs of his constituents, vote for me.



by **ALUN CAIRNS, WELSH CONSERVATIVE PARTY**

It has been a privilege to serve the constituents of the Vale of Glamorgan since being elected in 2010. I have tried to achieve two main objectives locally – champion the area, and help local people who have been let down by the system.

Recently, I played a central role in securing the new fairground as part of the regeneration of Barry Island. I pushed hard to secure the deal, because I was certain that it would deliver such a major jobs boost for Barry and the wider Vale.

In the space of just a few weeks, we have seen an incredible start to the season, and it is just the start.

I have had the opportunity to help, often in a small way, many wonderful people over the past five years.

If I am re-elected on May 7, I will continue to offer my support to my fellow residents in the Vale, no matter what the issue may be.



by **CHRIS ELMORE,**  
**WELSH LABOUR**

I'm standing to be your MP to make the Vale a fairer place. With 10,000 residents being supported by foodbanks and the poorest in our society being hit with a VAT rise and the 'bedroom tax', things need to change.

A Labour Government will scrap the bedroom tax, freeze energy bills until 2017, raise the minimum wage, and cut taxes for those on low and middle incomes.

I moved to Barry when I was a teenager, and have stayed here ever since. Being active in the community is important to me; I am chair of trustees at the Barry YMCA, a school governor, and work with groups such as Communities First and Flying Start. I started my life training as a butcher; I now work full time representing my local area as a councillor.

I will be a strong local voice for the Vale. Vote Labour for a fairer future.



by **IAN JOHNSON, PLAID CYMRU, THE PARTY OF WALES**

Plaid Cymru wants to see a successful Wales and a prosperous Vale of Glamorgan.

We will ensure that Wales gets the same deal as Scotland. That would mean an extra £1.2 billion pounds per year – £400 extra for every person in Wales – to improve our public services. With this money we can save and strengthen our NHS by training and recruiting more doctors and nurses.

We want to see investment in services, not cuts; and an end to the cruel 'bedroom tax' that affects almost 1,000 families in the Vale.

Having made Barry a regeneration town when in government, Plaid Cymru will prioritise investment in Barry to create jobs and opportunities on Barry Island, the Waterfront, Holton Road and the High Street.

Plaid Cymru has opposed housing over-development in the Vale's Local Development Plan, pushed for a moratorium on fracking, and fought against cuts to library services.



by **KEVIN MAHONEY**  
**UKIP**

As the only Vale councillor to refuse all pay rises since being elected, as well as taking a further substantial, voluntary cut to my allowance, in empathy with council and private sector workers who are undergoing reductions in hours and wages, I feel I have shown my independence and determination to represent Vale residents' interests, rather than myself.

UKIP's main policies include a sensible, points-based immigration system, ending mass, uncontrolled immigration, which creates unsustainable pressures on housing, health, education and social welfare budgets.

We would scrap the unfair 'bedroom tax' and zero-hour contracts. We are the one party to stand up and support, by practical costed measures, our Armed Forces, while in service, and their continued welfare and wellbeing after leaving the Forces.

UKIP believes money raised in this country needs to be spent here, helping improve the lives of the people who earned and raised that money.



by **DAVID MORGAN,**  
**WELSH LIBERAL DEMOCRATS**

Liberal Democrats in Government have cut income tax by £800 for over a million workers.

We've also ensured the biggest ever rise in the state pension via our triple-lock.

We've provided funding for schools via the pupil premium/pupil deprivation grant and already provided up to £2,000 tax-free for child care.

In future, we'll protect the education budget from cradle to college, and increase the NHS budget by £8 billion, so Wales can also benefit.

In Government, we will balance the budget by 2018, cut income tax by a further £400, ensure more nurses on the wards, provide better mental health services, and an increased budget for the NHS.

We will extend the pupil premium/PDG to £2,500 per pupil, and deliver on fairer funding and devolved powers to Wales.



by **STEVEN REED, CANNABIS IS SAFER THAN ALCOHOL**

I represent the Cannabis Is Safer Than Alcohol Party (CISTA), which campaigns for a Royal Commission to review UK cannabis law.

We support a harm-reduction programme, seeking a regulated market to protect cannabis users from contact with criminal gangs that supply hard drugs.

Taxing cannabis sales could raise £1 billion to fund drug education programmes, police and the NHS; 85 per cent of voters believe the war on drugs is failing, costing lives, and criminalising otherwise good citizens.

To be your MP will be a privilege. MPs should only be paid for attendance in Parliament – no holiday/sick pay/pension.

For: EU referendum; proportional representation; minimum wage £8 per hour; road and rail investment; increased budgets for Armed Services, NHS, police and social housing.

Against: HS2, Trident, library cuts, tax evasion, zero hour contracts, 'bedroom tax', poverty.

I will fight for all angry voters demanding change  
Vote CISTA.

## Performers head for Dance World Cup

**HUW BOUCHER, (12) from Penarth, won a gold medal for his ballet solo at the Bristol Eisteddfod.**

He also won a trophy for the highest marks which entered him into the semi finals of the All England competition where he will be joined by Alys Thomas.

Huw is a pupil of Moya Vahey School of Russian Classical Ballet based in BIJOU, Cowbridge. Alys is trained by Ella Morgan in Pontyclun.

Both dancers are part of Team Wales who have reached the final of the Dance World Cup which takes place in Romania at the end of June.

Team Wales are very grateful for the money raised by the staff at the Co-Op in Cowbridge, Watts & Morgan and Cowbridge Rotary club.

MV

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Elijah concert

CARDIFF Bach Choir with New Bristol Sinfonia will perform *Elijah* by Felix Mendelssohn on April 25 (7.30pm) at Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, with conductor Tim Taylor and Paul Carey Jones as *Elijah*. Tickets available on 029 2039 1391.

### RNLI campaign

MAY 1, 2 and 3 will see the launch of a nationwide campaign in aid of the RNLI when events will be taking place throughout the country.

In Penarth there will be collections in the town centre and seafront on the Friday and Saturday, and there will be a 5km charity walk around Penarth on Sunday. To participate or assist, contact [rnlipenarth@hotmail.com](mailto:rnlipenarth@hotmail.com).

# Have Blooming Great Tea Party for Marie Curie...

EVERYONE living with a terminal illness should have access to high quality care and support, which meets all of their needs. Marie Curie want people to be able to get the most from the time they have left.

The charity is for people living with cancer or any other terminal illness and their families.

The right care and support at the right time can make all the difference.

There are more than 140 Marie Curie nurses working in Wales, caring

for around 2,300 terminally ill people and their families in their homes each year, with nearly 2,000 Marie Curie nurses working across the UK.

These nurses work night and day, in people's homes, providing hands-on care and vital emotional support.

The Marie Curie Hospice in Penarth cares for around 1,200 people each year, some staying in the hospice for specialist round-the-clock care, others coming in for the day to use the hospice's services.

The charity also supports people throughout their illness by giving practical

information and guidance, support from trained volunteers and being there when someone wants to talk.

Not least, they are a leader in research into better care for terminally ill people, a major centre is the Marie Curie Palliative Care Research Centre, Cardiff.

Over the last 60 years, they have helped hundreds of thousands of people and families. The ageing population means more and more people are living with a terminal illness.

Even now, carers say seven out of every 10 people with a terminal illness don't get all the care and support they

need. Marie Curie do not think that's good enough. They think more has to be done and are asking for your support to make that possible.

Could you host or attend a Blooming Great Tea Party between June 20 and 29 to raise funds for the charity at your house, a friend's house or anywhere you like?

Last year, the Blooming Great Tea Party raised £667,000 across the UK, which paid for 33,350 hours of vital nursing care.

You can sign up to host your Blooming Great Tea Party at

[www.mariecurie.org.uk/teatime](http://www.mariecurie.org.uk/teatime); you can also contact the West Wales fundraising office on 01554 759071 or [westwalesfundraising@mariecurie.org.uk](mailto:westwalesfundraising@mariecurie.org.uk) for advice.

Please share your event details, photos with them or get involved on social media using #BloomingGreat.

To get help from the Marie Curie Nursing Service, talk to your GP, district nurse or discharge nurse. For other support, visit [www.mariecurie.org.uk](http://www.mariecurie.org.uk) or the Marie Curie Support Line 0800 090 2309 (open 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday - calls from landlines are free, but there may be a charge if you're calling from a mobile).

## Music in Hospitals set to return to the wards!

MUSIC IN HOSPITALS is returning to Cardiff and Vale University Health Board for the second year running.

It sets out to improve the quality of life of adults with all kinds of illness and disability in hospitals, hospices, day care centres and nursing homes through the joy and therapeutic benefits of professionally performed live music.

Robert Aitken CBE, Director, Music in Hospitals Wales, said: "It is always a pleasure to work with people who value the importance of integrating the arts into healthcare, ultimately enhancing the patient experience. We hope to continue our partnership with Cardiff and Vale Health charity for

many years to come."

Simone Joslyn, Clinical Project Lead, said: "We aim to bring music to patients, in particular vulnerable adults and young people, especially those who really appreciate some distraction on wards as they are often unable to leave. Music helps boost patient and staff morale."

"It's great to see patients and visitors enjoying themselves, tapping along to the beat of the music and getting involved in the performance."

Concerts will take place throughout the year at St David's Hospital, Barry Hospital, University Hospital of Wales, Whitchurch Hospital, Iorwerth Jones Centre, Rookwood Hospital, and University Hospital, Llandough.

## Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Branch Manager Phil Powell feels that it's all about service. "Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although

that obviously helps. Many people have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service the Vale, Bridgend, RCT and Porthcawl areas and Phil is finding that his

approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated."

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Phil a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!



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# IOLO'S DRUMMING MARATHON PAYS OFF FOR WATER CHARITY

Report by PHILIP IRWIN

**IOLO WHELAN, the Vale musician who marked his 40th birthday by drumming non-stop for 40 hours – is now happily recovering – helped by the knowledge that he has almost doubled his fundraising target!**

Iolo played drums and percussion for 40 hours, from 8am on Friday, April 17, until midnight on April 18.

His sister Luned said: "He declared himself to be feeling great, and proceeded to have a dance with his wife Rachel, who was the first to congratulate him at the end of the challenge."

"He would like to thank all the team who helped him before, during and after the event, and everyone who has supported the cause of his chosen charity, WaterAid in many different ways."

"The running total

**LLANCARFAN JUMBLE SALE**  
LLANCARFAN Ladies Tuesday Club are holding their annual jumble sale (raising cash for local charities) on April 25 at 1.30pm (no entrance fee) in Llanccarfan village hall.

There will be a wide selection of good quality clothes, household, bric-a-brac, jewellery, toys and plants.

now is over £7,000 and is still rising. Iolo reached his target of £4,000 shortly before midnight on Saturday, which was a cause for great celebration among the audience!"

Iolo's marathon took place in a unique location, in a roundhouse in the St Hilary area (right). Iolo told The GEM: "When we finished university, I and three friends decided to build an Iron Age roundhouse, using as many traditional materials as possible."

When they completed the task, rather than rest on their laurels, they decided they could do better, so they knocked it down, started again and built the existing structure.

It made for a unique venue for an occasion where Iolo was joined (at various times) by friends and family from around the Vale.

It is still possible to donate, to the address [www.justgiving.com/TheBigBash2015](http://www.justgiving.com/TheBigBash2015).



## Beer is named after marathon man Mark

RIGHT: Mark Ley with his 'Marathon Man' beer.

**BRAINS Brewery is set to release a limited edition beer to raise funds for its nominated charity, Tenovus Cancer Care.**

Marathon Man is named in honour of Mark Ley, people trainer at Brains, who will run this year's London Marathon in support of the charity.



The beer Mark helped to create, is a 4.3 per cent American-style brown ale brewed at Brains' craft brewing extension Brains Craft Brewery. It will be stocked for a limited period in a selection of Brains' own pubs, starting with the Yard in Cardiff this week, and 25p from every pint sold will be donated to the charity.

Mark explained: "I am so happy that I was able to brew a beer in our Craft Brewery, and even happier that there will be a donation from sales of Marathon Man to Tenovus Cancer Care. Brewing the beer with our head brewer Bill Dobson was such a great experience, and the beer is looking and tasting great!"

"Training for the marathon has been hard but I am really looking forward to running the London Marathon and hope to make a great contribution to Brains' fundraising effort for Tenovus Cancer Care."

## Folk music workshops

THERE will be folk music workshops at Dinas Powys Fringe Festival on May 27.

Starting at 11am, Andy Clarke and Steve Tyler will be at the Murchfield Community Centre, Sunnycroft Lane, Dinas Powys, for the day.

There is also a folk/acoustic concert in the evening with Andy and Steve, Tom Fitton and Slipstone (Huw Chidgey and Mel Carew).

The workshops are free but places need to be booked on 07765 513424, [www.ticketsource.co.uk/murchfieldcommunitycentre](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/murchfieldcommunitycentre).

**Shadows Club**  
THE South Wales Shadows Club's meeting is on May 12, in the Conservative Club, Stanwell Road, Penarth (Telephone 02920 309979).



ABOVE: Just over 27 hours into the challenge and Iolo is still going strong. Photograph by Mandy Thomas ([www.mandythomasphotography.co.uk](http://www.mandythomasphotography.co.uk)).

## Olympian Jamie will lead next Mair's Walk

**HUNDREDS of walkers are set to embark on the ninth annual 'Mair's Walk' on Sunday, June 7 at 11am, to raise funds for the Stepping Stones Appeal, supporting lung cancer research at Velindre Cancer Centre.**

This popular three-mile walk takes in stunning scenery from Bridgend Recreation Centre, through Newbridge Fields and the village of Merthyr Mawr, before ending the other side of the stepping stones crossing the river. It will be led by former Welsh and Olympic athlete Jamie Baulch.

Into its ninth year, the annual walk has raised £182,000, which has been key to funding specialised equipment and procedures at Velindre Cancer Centre that wouldn't have been possible without the fundraising efforts.

The walk is the brainchild of Mair ap Gruffudd, who had lung cancer and felt she needed to give something back to

Velindre Cancer Centre after receiving excellent care.

On speaking to her oncologist, Dr Jason Lester, the Stepping Stones Appeal was born – taking its name from the fact that each step from diagnosis and treatment to finding a cure is a stepping stone, as well as the walk finishing up at the stepping stones at Ogmere Farm, Ogmere-by-Sea.

The afternoon is filled with entertainment for the whole family including music, hog roast, bouncy castle, face painting, a bar, raffle and much more!

Register by May 1 to receive a free walk t-

shirt. Entry is £10 per person and children under 16 are free. Fancy dress is optional and there is a prize for the best outfit.

Entry forms are available from: The Bridgend Foot Clinic, 5 Nolton Street, Bridgend CF31 1BX, telephone 01656 766446; James Mordecau, HRT Estate Agents, The Tool House, 1 Derwen Road, Bridgend CF31 1LH; or book online at: [www.velindrefundraising.com/bookonline](http://www.velindrefundraising.com/bookonline).

You can also register on the day of the walk. Registration will be open from 9.30am at Bridgend Recreation Centre.

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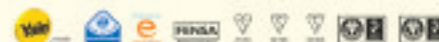
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# MPN's Best in Wales for the fourth time!

...Six-times World Snooker Champion presents award

Local home improvement company, MPN Windows has once again been named 'Best in Wales' for customer satisfaction, meaning the family-run company has now collected this award an impressive four times!

MPN's trophy comes from the independent window installers' organisation Network VEKA, a unique, sectoral standards organisation that only accepts the very best, most professional window and door companies, and then makes sure they stay the best. All prospective members undergo rigorous vetting before being accepted and must agree to regular audits and training. In this way, Network VEKA can be so confident in the quality of its members' work that every one is able to offer the organisation's ten year insurance-backed guarantee.

The results are calculated from the customer satisfaction feedback of nearly 16,000 households across Britain and Ireland: every customer of every member company for the whole year.

The trophy was presented at Network VEKA's AGM in Stratford-upon-Avon, by the organisation's Brand Ambassador Steve Davis.

The Six-Times World Snooker Champion told the MPN team: "As a Network VEKA member, you are competing against the best of the best - so to win 'Best in Wales' for a fourth time really is a fantastic achievement. Your customers obviously appreciate all your hard work."

Pictured: Melanie and Paul Webster with Steve Davis.



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# Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email [gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk](mailto:gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk)

LETTERS AND E-MAILS MUST INCLUDE FULL ADDRESS AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER

IMPORTANT: We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. An email address alone is not sufficient! We will (in certain circumstances) protect a writer's identity, if requested.

'Congratulations to Vale's talented youngsters...'

## An outstanding musical triumph for local schools

I WOULD like to congratulate the young people of the Vale of Glamorgan who have yet again won national recognition for their outstanding success in the field of music.

Saturday night saw Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg win the finals of a competition to find the best primary school choir in Wales. The standard of all the choirs in the final on S4C was absolutely amazing, but the performance of our own Welsh medium school was flawless – a great success following their win as best choir on Songs of Praise.

The choir Heol y March followed this

by winning the senior choir competition staged by S4C on Sunday evening.

These young singers were again from The Vale of Glamorgan. The conductor of both these choirs was Eleri Roberts, and how fortunate are we to have such an eminent music teacher to work with our young people in the Vale. We owe her a great deal.

If you have never heard either of these wonderful choirs, look out for any possible occasions to hear them that might arise!

My thanks to all involved in two evenings of superb entertainment.

Gwen Baty,  
Cowbridge.

### Is this the future for our NHS?

WITH the NHS being at the forefront of the general election debate, it was interesting that on a recent visit to my GP's surgery to find that the list of private health charges had been moved from an obscure part of the waiting room to a very prominent position.

This new, highlighted, notice advertised the present

charges for private treatment, examples of which were consultation with either doctor or nurse... 10 minutes £30, 15 minutes £45, 30 minutes £90, and a home visit £100.

Could this notice reflect how GPs view the future of the Health Service, as they are all private practices funded, at present, by the NHS.

Think carefully how you use your vote, as the NHS is facing a very uncertain future.  
CW Wright,  
Barry.

### Who creates the wealth?

IN the 19th century, because he owned some south Wales coal mines and Cardiff docks, the Marquis of Bute made more money out of every ton of coal exported than all the miners and dockers involved put together.

Since he also owned a vast number of homes in Cardiff, for which citizens paid rent all their lives, dying as poor as when they were born, he prospered hugely.

And we all know how he chose to spend all that wealth which had been torn from beneath the earth.

This is what Conservatives seek to conserve today – that the 'Super Rich' shall control society, to the detriment of all the rest of us.

If you are foolish enough to believe such irrational economics, then the Marquis, like today's Super Rich, is the 'Wealth Creator', not the miners who risked their lives digging coal.  
Neville Westerman,  
Brynna.

## Chance to show off your garden

WITH spring in full swing and the lighter evenings here to stay, I wanted to encourage your readers to get back in their gardens over the months ahead in order to make the most of their outdoor spaces.

I have been gardening for over 50 years and love nothing more than spending a few hours pottering around in the garden or allotment, making the most of these wonderful spring evenings.

With the great

outdoors very much in mind, I have recently collaborated with National Trust Wales, who have just launched a new national competition called #NTWalesGardenProud, which aims to get people across the Vale to showcase and share their outdoor spaces via social media channels, including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

To win an exclusive half-day consultation with a National Trust Wales gardener, as well as a whole host of other 'money can't buy' National Trust Wales prizes, all your readers need to do is simply submit photos of their outdoor spaces by posting to Facebook,

Twitter or Instagram using the hashtag #NTWalesGardenProud. Alternatively, email entries to [gardenproud@workingwales.org.uk](mailto:gardenproud@workingwales.org.uk)

Why not pop along

one day to Dyffryn Gardens to see the beautiful grounds bloom into life and get some inspiration for your next gardening project?  
Terry Walton,  
BBC Radio Wales.

### 'Take your dog poo home with you!'

I WOULD like to dispel the myth that there is a dog poo fairy. If you pick up your dog mess in a black tie plastic bag in the Maes Glas area, please take it home with you.

Dumping it on people's front gardens is unacceptable; why should someone else be responsible for it? It is your responsibility!

You have gone to the trouble of picking the mess up; deal with it with consideration for others.  
Chris Goring,  
Barry.



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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Parkinson's group sessions

THE first self-management group by Parkinson's UK will launch in Bridgend on Tuesday, June 2, with one session per week for six weeks (from 1pm – 3.30pm) at the Care & Repair offices, Brocastle Manor.

People with Parkinson's, partner or carer, can meet like-minded people, to discuss daily living with Parkinson's.

The sessions are free of charge, but participants must book a place by calling 02079 633924, or email [selfmanagement@parkinsons.org.uk](mailto:selfmanagement@parkinsons.org.uk).

### Defibrillator training

A defibrillator is to be donated to The Paget Rooms in Penarth by Welsh Hearts/Calonnau Cymru, The Heart Charity for

Wales, which is holding a free CPR and defibrillator training session at the Paget Rooms on Tuesday, June 9 (7pm to 9pm).

"Welsh Hearts, in partnership with strategic partners, aims to equip people with emergency vital life saving skills and the knowledge and actions that could save a life," a spokesperson explains.

"Training will be given in CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation), a first aid technique that is a combination of rescue breaths and chest compressions and training on how to use a defibrillator – a life saving machine used to shock a person's heart back into its normal rhythm after a cardiac arrest."

For more information, contact Welsh Hearts on 02920 786521 or email [fundraising@welshhearts.org](mailto:fundraising@welshhearts.org).

## CCTV arrests in the Vale

THE Vale of Glamorgan Council's CCTV team contacted police a total of 36 times during the week ending April 19.

On April 14, one person was arrested on Boverton Road in Llantwit Major for allegedly driving while disqualified. On the same day an arrest was made on Bassett Street in Barry concerning theft.

On April 16 one person was arrested on Holton Road, Barry, also concerning theft.

On April 19 one person was cautioned over possession of cannabis on Gladstone Road, Barry.

# ELERI'S BOYS AND GIRLS SING OUT AND DO DOUBLE IN ABERYSTWYTH

**IN a stunning weekend for local choral singing, two young choirs with strong Cowbridge connections won two national competitions on S4C – and both were conducted by Eleri Roberts from Welsh St Donats! PHILIP IRWIN**

First, on Saturday, April 18, the school choir from Ysgol Iolo Morganwg became the top primary school choir in Wales in S4C's Cŵr Cymru Cynradd 2015.

This followed on from the school's triumph last year in the UK-wide Junior Songs of Praise competition.

(A full report on the school's S4C win is on this page (right)). Then, the following evening (April 19) Cŵr Heol y March, Eleri Roberts' children's choir based near Welsh St Donats, beat 'grown up' choirs to win the coveted Cŵr Cymru (Choir of Wales) prize in the competition's final, which was televised live on S4C from Aberystwyth.

Eight Ysgol Iolo Morganwg pupils are members of both

successful choirs.

After being one of only four children's choirs selected from all over Wales in the preliminary round earlier this year, and then winning the children's choir category semi-final a few weeks ago, Cŵr Heol y March competed against the winners of the other semi-finals – the youth choir, male voice choir, ladies choir and mixed voice choir categories – in the grand final.

The other finalists were: the winner of the mixed category, Cywair of Newcastle Emllyn; Parti Llwchwr women's choir from Loughor; youth choir category winner Ysgol Gerd Ceredigion; and the winner of the male voice choir category, Bechgyn Bro Taf from Cardiff.

A panel of international judges awarded the first prize to Cŵr Heol y March for their "convincing" and "musical" performance of five songs sung in Welsh, English, Latin, and Japanese!

Choir conductor Eleri Roberts said: "The children have worked really hard over the last few months to win this prize, which is regarded as the biggest honour for Welsh choirs."

"It's incredible that a group of children aged 16 and under, with the youngest members being only eight years old, have achieved this and I am so proud of them!"

"I also want to thank all the parents especially Alison Huw, Karen Lewis and Rhian Fenn, and our accompanists Ieuan Jones and Eluned Pierce."

Cŵr Heol y March now hold two prestigious titles – Cŵr Cymru 2015, and Children's Choir of the World 2014, which they won at the Llangollen International Eisteddfod last July.

The evening was presented by broadcasters Morgan Jones and Heledd Cynwal.

Cŵr Cymru presenter Heledd Cynwal said: "It's a wonderful experience to host this competition, which is exciting and multi-layered. Unlike the National Eisteddfod, the international judges are blind to the initial auditions and every choir begins with a clean slate – that's what makes Cŵr Cymru unique."

"Seeing the choirs mixing backstage is very rewarding, and it's great that they receive immediate feedback from the judges."



**ABOVE:** It's Sunday night and Cŵr Heol y March celebrate their victory.  
**BELOW:** Eleri Roberts and Ysgol Iolo pupils are the winners on Saturday night.

## Iolo Morganwg celebrate!



**THE small choir of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg showed they are true champions, winning the final of Cŵr Cymru Cynradd 2015.**

Competing against the three other finalists, Llangennech Juniors Choir, Ysgol Gymraeg Teilo Sant and Cor Ysgol y Wern, the Iolo choir, led by their enthusiastic conductor, Mrs Eleri Roberts, and accompanied by Mrs Catrin Thomas on piano, sang four songs in front of a large audience at the Aberystwyth Arts Centre.

The competition final was also televised live on S4C on the evening of Saturday, April 18.

The children had promised beforehand to "sing like they had never sung before" and this was certainly true on the night. Their nerves held strong and they looked like they were thoroughly enjoying their performance.

Caryl Parry Jones, a commentator in the competition said, "They looked mischievous before they had even started singing and that was reflected in the first song 'Swn' – a mischievous and mysterious piece."

The Cŵr Cymru Cynradd is a competition open to all primary school choirs in Wales and Ysgol Iolo Morganwg qualified for the final in December last year.

This was probably no surprise to the school, as the choir had won the National Songs of Praise Junior Choir competition only a few months earlier.

Cŵr Cymru Cynradd judges were Gareth Jones, musical director of Sinfonia Cymru, Mrs Zimfira Poloz, director of Hamilton Childrens Choir, Canada

and Simon Carrington, Professor of Conducting at Yale University, USA.

Eleri had explained that just as the language is so important, the choirs technical abilities had to shine as well, to satisfy the international judges.

The Iolo choir, opened with 'Swn' a new song full of mischief and mystery. This was to show the many characters within the choir.

The second song, 'Si Hei Lwli Mabi' a simple, unaccompanied piece highlighted the pure music of the choir with long musical lines. The third song, 'Nos Da Nawr', again showed the character of the choir, creating a magical essence.

To close, the children performed 'Cydiwn Ddwyllo' – World Peace, without doubt an emotional and powerful song with a clear message in the words.

As the result was announced, Simon Carrington said: "It had been a wonderful event and all schools sang to a high standard. The decision has been difficult, as all the children had sung from their hearts. Ysgol Iolo sang with flexibility and musicality."

Zimfira Poloz added "The choir produced organic, quality and acapella singing".

Emotions were running high on Saturday night and Eleri Roberts, the choir's leader, explained, "To get to the final of this competition was a tremendous result for this very young and small choir, many of the children are eight or nine years old and for many, it is their first time on a stage."

"The standard of the competition was very high and all the schools in the final sang incredibly well."

"The children sang their hearts out and I am very proud of them and thank them for all their hard work and dedication. They truly deserve their win".

Mrs Rhian Williams, headteacher at Ysgol Iolo, was also at the competition final and commented: "The support has been amazing tonight and the atmosphere electric. I'm incredibly proud of the children. They are young and yet so professional. They have taken the competition in their stride."

"Eleri is an amazing conductor. We are very grateful to have her as part of our school family. It's fantastic what the school choir has achieved in the last nine months – winning two national competitions."

"But the main point is that the children really enjoy their singing, it's an important part of our school culture".

What next? After the school has enjoyed the Cŵr Cymru Cynradd success, Eleri Roberts and the children will be preparing for a 'Celebrations' CD and concert featuring songs from both competitions and special guests.

The launch of the CD and concert will be held at Acapela, Penttyrch, Cardiff on the evening of June 18.

Tickets will be available from Ysgol Iolo Morganwg on 01446 772358, or by email at [ylomorganwg@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:ylomorganwg@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk), so book your seat now for a very special performance.

Follow the CD and concert preparations on Twitter @ysgolilo and catch the show again on S4C Clic Cŵr Cymru.

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## Choir 'Maternal Harmony' is set for its second annual concert

**A WOMEN'S choir based at Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, will hold its second annual concert next month.**

Maternal Harmony was originally aimed at women with postnatal depression but also includes those with other mental health issues and family members wanting to support the cause.

It was set up by the Perinatal Response and Management Service (PRAMS) at Princess of Wales and won an ABMU chairman's award in its inaugural year.

PRAMS is a specialist mental health service offering assessment and treatment of mood disorders during and after pregnancy.

Women are given access to medication advice, home visits and antenatal and postnatal groups.

Perinatal nurse specialist Gail James said: "We have opened up the choir to people who don't have postnatal depression but do support the cause."

Some, but not all of them, have other mental health issues.

"Being in the choir gives you focus and support. It gives you an interest in life and helps you feel part of something."

"The power of music can definitely make you feel better."

It has been a busy year for the choir, including performing at weddings, a gala dinner, a Swansea University conference and elsewhere.

Their second annual concert will take place in Grace Church, Bridgend, on Saturday, May 9.

*Tickets cost £2.50, with children free, and are available by emailing*

*Francesca.Fearn@wales.nhs.uk. Anyone interested in joining the choir can go along to a rehearsal in the Princess of Wales Hospital on Thursday nights from 7pm-9pm.*

### ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

## New self storage company has confidence in Bridgend

**THE leading storage experts, Dainton Self Storage, have chosen Bridgend county borough as the ideal location for their first site in Wales, and it will be open in May.**

The company has bought a 10.5 acre brown field site on Coity Road, and is investing a further £300,000 to bring "fantastic" new self storage facilities to Bridgend, just a couple of minutes' drive from

the town centre.

A company spokesman said: "The site will be well positioned to serve not only the commercial and domestic market of Bridgend but most of Mid Glamorgan."

Secure storage units will range in size from 35 sq ft to 320 sq ft, making them ideal for storing anything from a few boxes to the contents of a large five bedroom house.

Dainton Self Storage will also be offering secure external storage for caravans, boats, motor homes and

vehicles, all of which can be stored on the site, safely wrapped up by 8ft high palisade fencing and monitored 24 hours a day by CCTV.

Dainton will also specialise in providing portable buildings and shipping containers for sale and hire. Managing Director Paul Maddicott said: "We are really excited about opening our 12th site in Bridgend, especially as this is our first in Wales. Our other sites are mainly concentrated in the West Country but Bridgend really does seem to be a

great place to invest in at the moment, and we are hopeful this will prove to be the first of many in Wales."

Dainton's first self storage facility was opened in 2002 at Heathfield in Devon. Since then Dainton has opened in Plymouth, Barnstaple, Exeter, Torquay, Paignton, Ipplepen and St Austell, with expansion plans for storage facilities in Bristol, Gloucester and Darlington before the end of the year.

Self storage first came to prominence during the 1960s in America and has become an economically resilient industry in the UK as demand for storage space increases. Self storage provides consumers with their own secure space that they can access whenever they want by way of electronic key access.

Dainton's is a family-run business and its owner, Paul Maddicott, attributes its growth and ongoing success to the traditional values that founded the company; providing excellent customer service, best value and understanding their customers' needs.

## Dogs Trust 'concerned' over road diversion

**STAFF at Dogs Trust Bridgend are concerned that road closures to make way for a new solar park will stop their homeless hounds from finding loving homes.**

The charity would like to alert the public to the lane closure, which may disrupt travel to the rehoming centre for five weeks from April 21 and hope potential owners won't bypass any poaches.

Dogs Trust Bridgend is also keen to highlight that their training classes, Thursday evening from 6pm to 9pm, will go ahead as usual.

Rehoming centre manager Beverley Price said: "Over the next five weeks, visitors to our centre will be required

to take an alternative route. However, the diversion will be clearly signposted and will take under 10 minutes. We have lots of lovely dogs all hopeful of finding new homes and they all have their paws crossed that the five weeks of disruption won't deter visitors from heading to Dogs Trust Bridgend."

"Puppies such as adorable crossbreed Pip would normally find homes within days, but we fear the road closure may mean it will take considerably longer for her to finally find her 'furry tail' ending."

Dogs Trust, Court Colman, Pen-Y-Fai, Bridgend, CF31 4NG, is open 12 noon to 4pm Thursday to Tuesday (closed Wednesdays).

See top right 'Fan could be your new friend' for the latest appeal.

## Will Fan become your new friend?

*The GEM has joined forces with the Dogs Trust to find suitable homes for inmates at the Bridgend rehoming centre. Tel 01656 725219.*

**FAN is nine years old and is quite typical of a working sheep dog, sensitive but strong. Fan does mix with other dogs and enjoys the company of smaller dogs as long as**

**they are not annoying her!**

She enjoys her walks, but is better being driven to somewhere a bit more quiet and away from livestock. She would be ideal for a collie experienced, active home, with a patient owner who will give her time to settle in. Children in the home will need to be 14 years and over.

**LINDA FEAGAN**  
Supporter Relations Officer,  
Dogs Trust Bridgend

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For those who don't enjoy the all-too-common, pitter-patter of raindrops, the Livin Roof also improves sound insulation compared to polycarbonate and glass.

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## Parkinson's: star's appeal

**MY brother-in-law was diagnosed with Parkinson's about 15 years ago, and was my original inspiration for joining Parkinson's UK.**

I have supported and worked with them ever since, and over the years have seen at first hand the pain and struggles that living with this devastating condition can entail.

At the start of Parkinson's Awareness Week, a new survey from Parkinson's UK revealed that an estimated 69,000 people in the UK with Parkinson's have experienced hostility and rudeness from members of the public.

It's unbearable to think of the suffering this can cause – it's bad enough, for example, having a long-term, incurable condition which can cause you to slur your speech and be unsteady on your feet, without being mistaken by a member of the public for being drunk.

I was shocked by the enormous number of people with Parkinson's who regularly come up against public

misunderstanding and unintentional cruelty – a third of people in our survey have been stared at, a quarter had their symptoms mistaken for drunkenness, and one in 10 have been laughed at because of their symptoms.

This hostility can have a profound effect on people with Parkinson's, increasing their depression and anxiety, and leaving some people too frightened to leave their homes.

To combat this, we are urging people to become friendlier by pledging to do small acts of kindness such as smiling and being more patient. In particular, we ask people not to make assumptions or jump to conclusions that can make an enormous difference to all of us – especially people with Parkinson's. I do hope your readers will join me in pledging to make a difference.

For more information on Parkinson's Awareness Week, visit [upyourfriendly.com](http://upyourfriendly.com).

**Jane Asher**  
**president, Parkinson's UK,**  
**215 Vauxhall Bridge Road,**  
**London SW1V 1EJ.**

## VOLUNTEER AS A MARIE CURIE HELPER

**THE Marie Curie helper service is looking for volunteers to support people living with a terminal illness, and their families, throughout the Vale.**

Marie Curie Cardiff and the Vale hospice on Bridgeman Road in Penarth will host two sessions on Wednesday, May 6 (6pm – 8pm) and

Friday, May 8 (1pm – 3pm) to provide more information about volunteering opportunities.

Volunteers will be specially trained and matched with a person living with a terminal illness, in order to provide support for up to three hours a week for that person and their loved ones.

For details, call 08450 738596 or email [southwaleshelper@mariecurie.org.uk](mailto:southwaleshelper@mariecurie.org.uk)

## BCBC in line for new award

**SEVEN of Wales' most deaf-friendly organisations have been shortlisted for a new Welsh award, including Bridgend County Borough Council.**

The charity Action on Hearing Loss Cymru (formerly the RNID) has launched the Excellence Wales Award, to recognise the businesses and organisations in Wales who "go the extra mile to ensure they are

accessible to the one-in-six people who are deaf or have hearing loss".

The seven also include the National Assembly for Wales and Welsh Ambulance Service Trust.

An independent judging panel will now decide on the Gold, Silver and Bronze category winners, which will be announced at the Action on Hearing Loss Cymru Gala dinner on May 15 at the Hilton Hotel in Cardiff.

### LOCAL CAB SESSIONS

**THE Citizens Advice Bureau, in partnership with Barry Communities First, is offering drop-in advice sessions in Barry, on debt, benefits and other issues at the Community Enterprise Centre, Skomer Road on Mondays between 9.30am-12.30pm; or at Coastlands Family Church, Tennyson Road, Colcot on Thursdays between 4.30pm-6pm.**

A drop-in service is also available at the Citizens Advice Bureau office on 119 Broad Street, Barry, from Monday to Friday, 9.30am-4.30pm or on telephone advice line 03444 77 20 20.

# LLANTWIT MAJOR & COWBRIDGE LIONS CLUB COWBRIDGE MAY FAIR BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY • MAY 4, 2015

## The Cowbridge May Fair builds on success and offers a real family fun day

by PHILIP IRWIN

**IT was around three years ago that the Llantwit Major and Cowbridge Lions Club set its sights on reviving an old rural tradition in the Vale – the Cowbridge May Fair.**

The club had already enjoyed success by being heavily involved in reviving a similar traditional event in Llantwit Major – a community event that had many of the attractions of the old time country fairs.

However, that Llantwit event took place every two years, so as not to clash with the town's Victorian Fayre, so club members, particularly those from Cowbridge, turned their thoughts to what to do in the 'fallow' year.

Club chairman John Andrew told The GEM: "Reviving the Cowbridge May Fair

was the obvious thing to do, and we found that there was great enthusiasm from the community."

What happened was that the first such fair, on May Day in 2013, was hailed a great success, and under clear blue skies the Bear Field in the town was packed throughout the day.

Local primary schools enthusiastically embraced the idea of dancing around the maypole, and set about learning traditional folk dances.

Teams were put together for a tug of war contest, and traders, crafters and voluntary groups came forward to take stalls on the field.

A stage was set up, and music was played all day, from local pop/rock groups to a wide variety of local choirs.

This year, on Monday, May 4, it's very much a question of "if it ain't broke, don't fix it" but there will be



a number of extra attractions for visitors – reflecting the success of two years ago.

A spokesman for the Llantwit Major and Cowbridge Lions told The GEM: "The Cowbridge May Fair programme is taking shape."

"On the stage there will be a variety of

musical acts including pop/rock by CMBR, St Donat's Choral, Cowbridge Rock Choir, CAOS and Stagecoach.

"On the field, there will be the traditional maypole plus gymnastics, zumba, Taekwondo, fun races and tug-of-war."

"In addition, there will be a great variety of stalls both on the field and in the leisure centre."

John Andrew said that the Lions were delighted that the leisure centre had come on board this year, and it was hosting a soft play area that should prove very popular.

When it comes to traditional attractions,

there is nothing more traditional than a 'bonny baby' competition. This will take place at 2pm, and the judge will be Vale AM Jane Hutt.

The Lions are particularly keen to see a strong tug of war competition, as it has been a traditional contest of strength at fairs, and can trace its origins back to ancient times.

At the 2013 Cowbridge May Fair, the Tug-of-War Shield was won by the Town Crier's team in a hard-fought 'pull off' against a team from Filco Cowbridge.

John Andrew said: "When we invited teams to come forward

some three weeks ago, we had an excellent response, but some keen competitors said that they were having trouble raising a team from among their own circle of friends."

"With that in mind, we will be happy to make up teams on the day from any interested individuals."

If you would like to enter a team, or to be considered for a team made up on the day, contact Llantwit Major and Cowbridge Lions via the web site [www.lmandclions.org.uk](http://www.lmandclions.org.uk) or by email [info@lmandclions.org.uk](mailto:info@lmandclions.org.uk).

(CONTINUED  
ON PAGE 19)

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LLANTWIT MAJOR &amp; COWBRIDGE LIONS CLUB

# COWBRIDGE MAY FAIR

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY • MAY 4, 2015



## What's on at the Cowbridge May Fair

**T**HE running order for performers on the main stage at the Cowbridge May Fair (timings may change on the day) are as follows:

10.30am – CMBR (pop/rock).

11am – Official opening by the Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian, Coun Peter Knapp.

11.10am – St Donat's Chorale.

11.45am – Cowbridge Rock Choir.

12.30pm – C A O S (Cowbridge Amateur Operatic Society).

1.15pm – Stagecoach Bridgend and Cowbridge.

2.15pm – Cowbridge Rock Choir.

4pm – Stiph Richard (pop/rock).

**FIELD EVENTS** during the day (timings may change on the day) are as follows.

11.10am – Vale Gymnastics.

1.30 – Zumba and Rebound.

2pm – Bonny Baby Competition.

2pm – Laughter Yoga.

2.30 – Llantwit Major Taekwondo.

3pm – Childrens Fun Races

**Note:** Maypole dances and the Tug of War competition will be operating throughout the day.

## May Fair for family fun!



(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18)

Another attraction this year will be a visit from the Cowbridge Fire Station, who will be bringing along their fire engine. It will be parked outside the leisure centre.

For Top Gear addicts suffering withdrawal symptoms after Jeremy Clarkson's travails, there will be some serious horse power on display, courtesy of the Maserati dealership in Cardiff.

There will be six prestige vehicles on the field: two Maseratis, two Lexus and two Toyotas.

All in all, the signs are excellent for another bustling community event which has every chance of repeating the success of two years ago!

The May Fair is designed for family fun, has a track record of delivering, so what better way is there to spend a bank holiday Monday?

Keep reading your free weekly GEM for more news on the May Fair, and for a full report and pictures!



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# Out and About with The GEM

## PLENTY OF POTENTIAL TO CREATE A THRILLER THAT WORKS, BUT... Child 44 is cumbersome and disjointed bore



by  
**GARETH JAMIESON**

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**TOM HARDY** has come a long way from playing the evil clone of Jean-Luc Picard in *Star Trek: Nemesis* in 2002 (incidentally, the only film this hardy soul has ever walked out of).

After the double hit of his sterling supporting turn in Christopher Nolan's *Inception* and the incendiary portrayal of Charles Bronson in *Bronson*, Hardy has

ploughed a furrow that has seen him take on both epic films (*The Dark Knight Rises*) and smaller fare (*Locke*).

His latest, *Child 44*, is an adaptation of a novel by Tom Rob Smith, and sees him play Leo, a member of the military police in Stalin's Russia in 1953. When he starts to investigate a series of child murders (despite Stalin dictating that murder isn't a crime), he and his wife Raisa (Noomi Rapace) are sent away from Moscow in disgrace.

Leo will not let the matter rest and takes the investigation into his own hands, despite the risks it poses to him and those close to him...

There are several themes that run through *Child 44* – there is that of a man doing the right thing against the wishes of his superiors, and even his family – the notion that murder is nothing more than a

'capitalist disease' and, therefore, not a crime – with the added dash of a dysfunctional relationship, all set against the oppressive backdrop of a Stalinist Russia just emerging from the shadows of World War Two.

Unfortunately, these themes are not fully explored in what is a lengthy, dull and rather portentous thriller that replaces loftier concerns and questions, with rote clichés and story elements that reduce what could have been something intriguing to something no more than a potboiler.

Early on, we learn that the main character of Leo is an orphan, battling to survive and taken in by a kindly soldier, thus creating a connection when he stumbles upon the 'murders' of youngsters across Moscow.

However, this is thoroughly glossed over. The notion of

murder being a disease rather than a crime, therefore allowing anyone with murderous intent free rein, is also glossed over – referred to but never digging too deeply into it.

These are just two examples of the frustrations encountered by this film, which ultimately becomes a melting pot of these elements, but never knows quite what it wants to be. One minute it's a race against time thriller about catching a killer, then it becomes a film about revenge, a good man being oppressed by a boo, hiss, villain – and then the next minute, it's a study of a relationship tested by the duplicity and

paranoia of this period in Russia's history.

Richard Price's screenplay never manages to coalesce these strands into a satisfying whole, a flaw that even the best director would struggle to work with, but under the direction of Daniel Espinosa (whose English-language debut, *Safe House*, was a by-the-numbers action thriller) it simply becomes a bit of a bore; Espinosa's direction suitably bleak and oppressive but straining to create big sequences rather than concentrating on the minutiae.

The performances are all encumbered by actors struggling with their accents, the film

sounding like an audition to voice a certain Meerkat-fronted website advert, with Tom Hardy not faring particularly well as his character, although noble and well-intentioned, never really engages you as a viewer.

Noomi Rapace is a bland collection of grimacing facial expressions, Gary Oldman offers little but gravitas, while Joel Kinnaman's Vasili merely sneers and hits the broad, 'bad guy' notes.

It's a shame, as there was plenty of potential to engage the brain and create a thriller that works on more than just the basic level, but *Child 44* even fails on

the front, the 'whodunnit' aspect a footnote in what is ultimately an underwhelming, and boring, effort.

**VERDICT:** As unthrilling a thriller as you are likely to find, the most interesting aspects of *Child 44*'s narrative are buried beneath a landslide of weak performances and a confused screenplay. Daniel Espinosa's direction doesn't help matters, but this is a failure across the board in what is a leaden, cumbersome and disjointed piece of work. *Poor.*

**SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED:** *The Bone Collector* (1999), *Se7en* (1995).

## Garden now open at Southerndown

**SLADE GARDEN, Southerndown, Vale of Glamorgan, CF32 0RP...**

Set in eight acres, Slade garden is an unexpected gem with established drifts of spring bulbs and a woodland plant collection. The terraced lawns, mature specimen trees, living willow arbours, rose and clematis pergola, orchard and herbaceous borders, create a very natural garden.

Husband's new passion – auriculas and alpine! Extensive views over the Bristol Channel.

Heritage Coast warden will give guided tours of adjacent Dunraven Gardens with slide shows every hour from 2pm.

Opening information:  
Saturday, April 25,  
Sunday April 26 (2pm-5pm). Admission £4, children free. Homemade teas.

## Disney's Magical Festival on Ice!

**DISNEY ON ICE** returns to the Motorpoint Arena, Cardiff with a Magical Ice Festival from April 29 – May 3.

It will be the first *Disney On Ice* show featuring much-loved sisters Anna and Elsa from the popular animated film, Disney's *Frozen*. It also features favourite characters from Disney's *The Little Mermaid*, *Tangled* and *Beauty and The Beast*.

"Mickey Mouse and Minnie Mouse will be bringing magical moments from across the Disney kingdom," a spokeswoman said.

Comical segments from everyone's

favourite Disney characters set the scene for the show stopping on-ice stories of princesses Ariel, Rapunzel and Belle.

There will be a special appearance by Anna and Elsa from the Academy Award-winning *Frozen*.

Audiences will journey up the North Mountains with the hilarious snowman Olaf, rugged mountain-man Kristoff and his loyal reindeer Sven as they help the sisters along the way in a story full of action, adventure, magic and unforgettable characters.

For tickets and further information, contact the venue or [disneyonice.co.uk](http://disneyonice.co.uk).

## WHAT'S ON AND WHERE?

### Vale AM's surgery

**THE Vale AM, Jane Huft, will hold a surgery this Saturday (April 25) from 12 noon to 1pm at St Bride's Major Church Hall, CF32 0SD. No appointment necessary.**

### Plant sale

**VOLUNTEERS** from the Cowbridge Physic Garden will be holding their annual plant sale in the gardens of Old Hall, Cowbridge on Saturday, April 25, starting at 10am. There is a chance to discuss horticultural issues with experts from the Garden.

Other nursery stalls will also be available, and a raffle.

### Art Society

**ON Thursday, April 30, Cowbridge Art Society welcomes Llantwit Major artist Nick Davies, who will give a demonstration of ink drawing using pipettes and sticks.**

Nick, who has exhibited in numerous galleries throughout south Wales, as well as in Oscars, Cowbridge, specialises in landscape paintings. The society meets on Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge from 7pm-9pm and visitors and new

members are welcome. For details of activities see [www.cowbridgeartsociety.com](http://www.cowbridgeartsociety.com).

### RNLI AGM

**THE annual general meeting of the Penarth fundraising section of the RNLI will be held at Penarth Yacht Club on Wednesday, April 29 at 2.15pm. All are welcome to attend.**

### Gardening Club

**THE next meeting of the Cowbridge Gardening Club will be the AGM and planting evening on Thursday, April 30 at 7.30pm in the Lesser Hall. New members welcome.**

### Parkinson's charity event

**THE Bridgend Branch of Parkinsons UK coffee morning on Friday, May 1 from 10am to 12.30pm at the Heronston Hotel, Ewenny Road, Bridgend. Tickets (£4) on the door with tombola and a raffle. All proceeds to go for research into a cure for Parkinsons.**

### Friendship art

**TO celebrate the conception of the Tree of Friendship on May 1, an installation art work will be exhibited on the tree situated**

**at the Knap Lake and Gardens, Barry on Saturday, May 2 from 11am.**

The artwork was constructed during January 2015 with 31 images, one for each consecutive day of the month.

There will also be work exhibited by artists Gina Ward and John Parr of Canonhill Artspace. For further information, see [www.glynpooley.com](http://www.glynpooley.com).

### Westbourne art exhibition

**THIS year, pupils in the junior department of Westbourne School, Penarth will be able to view their works of art at a special summer exhibition in the Pavilion at Penarth Pier.**

The children, from nursery upwards, are working hard on their creations and have been inspired by the different styles of local Welsh artists: Gayle Rogers, Helen Elliott, Sheridan Ward, Julie Lyddon and Sarah Richards.

Family and friends of the children are invited to view the exhibition on Friday, May 8. Members of the public are also invited to call in to the Pier Pavilion any time between 12 midday and 5.30pm.

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# YOUR *Sunday lunch* GUIDE

Enjoy your time with family & friends

## SUNDAY LUNCH IS A GREAT INSTITUTION – AND A SPECIAL TIME FOR FAMILIES

**S**UNDAY lunch is a revered Welsh (and British) institution – a time in the week nowadays when busy families and friends often decide to

gather at a local restaurant or pub to spend quality time together.

It provides a welcome alternative to the hours of preparing this special meal in the week at home (and avoids the washing up!). It is also an ideal opportunity to catch up on all the latest family news in a relaxing environment.

Now that sunny days have arrived, families may plan outings to a weekend leisure or sporting event, or a trip to the beach – so what better appetiser is there than the traditional roast, vegetarian or fish dish – depending on your preference?

In both the Vale and Bridgend areas, we are blessed with a host of high-quality establishments – some with seating outside as spring turns to summer.

There are often children's facilities available, so the kids can play on the bouncy castle or climbing frame, while mum and dad and their friends relax, knowing their youngsters are safe and fully occupied!

Pubs and restaurants may offer special deals – geared to the number of courses required, while for those who are unable to get out, there are delivery and pick-up services.

*No one has to miss out on that well-loved national institution – Sunday lunch!*

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**Three Horseshoes** MOULTON, Nr BARRY  
Country Inn www.3horseshoespub.com  
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**CLUB RESTAURANT**  
90 SOUTH ROAD, SULLY CF64 5SL  
Traditional Sunday Lunch  
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**Glamorgan GEM**  
on 01446 774484  
or email jan.irving@tindlenews.co.uk

## Vale is in the BBC spotlight in the lead-up to the election



Broadcaster Jamie Owen faces the camera in Barry.



The Vale was in the spotlight this week in the run-up to the general election, as BBC Wales news teams escaped the studio and took to the road.

Travelling from Barry to Llandudno, they will be visiting and broadcasting live from key constituencies along the way.

The programmes will be taking the temperature among constituents and finding out which topics are being debated.

On Monday (April 20) the tour kicked off with a visit to Barry town centre.

BBC Radio Wales broadcast live from the BBC election tent located in King's Square with Good Morning Wales from 6am, followed by Morning Call at 9am and Eleri Sion from 1pm.

BBC Radio Cymru then took centre stage from 5pm with Post Prynhawn.

Caesar's Café hosted BBC Wales programmes with Radio Cymru's Post Cynaf broadcasting from 8am followed by Dylan Jones at 9am. Good Evening Wales on Radio Wales was there from 4pm.

Wales Today's lunch

time and evening programmes and Newyddion 9 were also broadcast live from the town.

Commenting on the tour's visit to Barry, Radio Wales's Eleri Sion said: "I try to champion Barry as often as I can, as I absolutely love living here."

"As I was brought up near Aberaeron, on the Ceredigion coast, my dream was always to live by the sea. My dream came true back in 2007 when we found our home in The Knap area and now I wouldn't want to live anywhere else."

**GALLERY EXHIBITION**  
FROM May 9-29, local artists Geoff Dawson and Emlyn Hole will hold a joint exhibition of paintings of Welsh scenes.

June 6-26, a rare chance to see quilts and textile pieces hand made in south Wales.

Giles Gallery is at the Old Methodist Church, Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun, CF72 9EG; open Tuesday to Saturday, 10am-5pm (Wednesday and Thursday 10am-8.30pm), 01443 228638 / 07879 035921.

**The Highwayman Inn**  
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**The Cross Inn** Llantwit Major Road, Cowbridge CF71 7LJ  
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www.crossinncowbridge.co.uk

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• 3 Course £14.95  
Children's: 1 Course £6.50  
• 2 Course £9.50 • 3 Course £12.50  
(Strictly under 12's)  
Selection of four delicious roasts & some specials available. Vegetarian options available.  
Booking advisable. Beer Garden.  
Tel: 01446 773943

# LLANTWIT MAJOR 165s TAKE THE TROPHY IN BELGIAN TOURNAMENT

**THE Llantwit Major 165s touring party – 20 boys and four adults – left the rugby club on a wet foggy evening on Thursday, April 2, for their end of season tour to Ghent in Belgium.**

The team of under-15 and under-16 players competed in the Ghent rugby tournament, a well-established festival that has just entered its 25th year and welcomes teams from all over Europe at every age level and every ability – including national sides from the Netherlands, Georgia, Germany and the host country.

Before any rugby could be played, there was the pre-tournament party to be dealt with, which saw the touring party turn up in full Hawaiian dress code and sunglasses.

So to the rugby itself, and after receiving a police escort into the rugby grounds that any national side would be proud of, the 165s were informed that there were only three sides in their group so they would definitely be bringing some silverware home!

The matches were played on a glorious Sunday afternoon, which was perfect for the style of running rugby that the 165s are becoming well known for.

First up were a side from Ashford in Kent, a strong team that had all their strength up front, helping them beat the local side by over 50 points in the opening match!

The 165s knew they had to start strong, and were running angles and breaking tackles time after time before a rush defence line saw Evan Holloway intercept and score the first try of the day.

This settled the team and excellent forward play from a lineout saw Lewis Sutton and his forward pack produce a clean catch and drive which ignited the backline of Ben Burrows, Tom Slimings, Scott Bunting, Evan Holloway and Joe Hanson, before a bursting run from Ben Simpson saw the travelling side's score increase to 10-0.

With half time approaching and solid scrummaging from Scott Ankin, Iwan Williams, Jake Peers, Lewis Sutton, Ethan Forrest, Edward Thomas, Cai Jones (captain) and Braidon Bennett, the 165s threw everything at the Kent side and a breakaway run from Williams, and solid rucking from Jones, saw the back line, burst through with a Bunting trademark crash ball that put Holloway in for his second of the day (15-0).

In the second half, good forward play led to a try (15-5).

Reduced to 14 men for a tip tackle, the Llantwit side continued to throw themselves at every opposition player, but were eventually found wanting and another try was scored in the corner (15-10).

The Llantwit management could see some players were starting to feel the pace and on rolled the big guns of Luke Morgan, the pace of Declan Ellis, Rhys Richards, Saul Connelly and Steffan Bugler and the guts of Jacob Young!

The fresh legs raised the tempo and the forwards battled hard before powerful No.8 Braidon Bennett crashed over under the sticks. Slimings made easy work of the conversion (22-10).

The opposition knew that time was against them and they continued to run every ball possible, and crossed the line, only to have the ball stripped and grounded by Holloway.

Confusion then followed, and everyone wondered if the Belgian referee had a new set of rules when he awarded a try to Ashford to make it 22-15!

With minutes to go, the 165s knew the game was on a knife edge and any wasted ball could go against them. Hard running from the forwards was matched when the backs threw a miss pass into the waiting arms of Jacob Young, who ran the last 10 yards and bounced a tackle before scoring in the corner.

Final score 27-15!

The second game was against a Ghent side that were determined to show that Belgium is capable of playing rugby.

Captain Cai Jones caught the opening kick-off, and after tidy ruck ball and a kick through from Tom Slimings, he was on the receiving end of some slick passing to race over the line.

Continued forward pressure in both scrum and lineout, with a top draw behind the back pass from Slimings, saw the 165s move left and then right, sending Declan Ellis over in the corner (10-0).

Gent knew they needed to perform and kept throwing everything at the defensive line of Bunting and Holloway, who hardly missed a tackle all day! However, if they did, they knew that big Joe Hanson was waiting to put anyone down that dared to cross his path!

Time after time he hit hard and linked with Simpson, Steffan Bugler and Ellis to run back at the Gent side.

Brilliant open play and a 25-yard gain line break from Bunting saw the ball move left and

Jones go over for his second of the day. Slimings converted for 17-0.

Good lineout throws from Scott Ankin, with excellent catching from Lewis Sutton and clean up work from Iwan Williams, Ed Thomas and Luc Morgan, saw Slimings get his just desert and go over in the corner just before half time for 22-0.

The second half played out with the same pace and heavy forwards domination. Two solid scrums saw the 165s steal ball against the head and with slick hands from Connelly (on for Burrows) Ben Simpson went over in the left hand corner for his second of the day (27-0).

The next try came from a backs move to give centre Bunting a deserved try, Slimings converting for 34-0.

The final try was scored following another quick lineout and good hands from all the backs put Holloway over left of the posts. Slimings converted for 41-0.

The cup was awarded at the end of the tournament, and tour captain Cai Jones duly accepted on behalf of all players.

The management would like to thank all the main sponsors and local businesses (Agrii, LMRF, Flocon, Bay Cars, Gileston Farm Feeds, Howdens of Barry, KCS, Lloyd

Owens, Techniques Sportscubs, R&T Keyline, Machinery, Brown Estate Agents, Yara Fertilisers and H&H Build) who helped support the tour and without their generous donations the tour.

The 165s are away to Bridgend on April 26, before their final game against Llantwit Fardre on the Cardiff Arms Park on Friday, May 1, brings their season to a close.

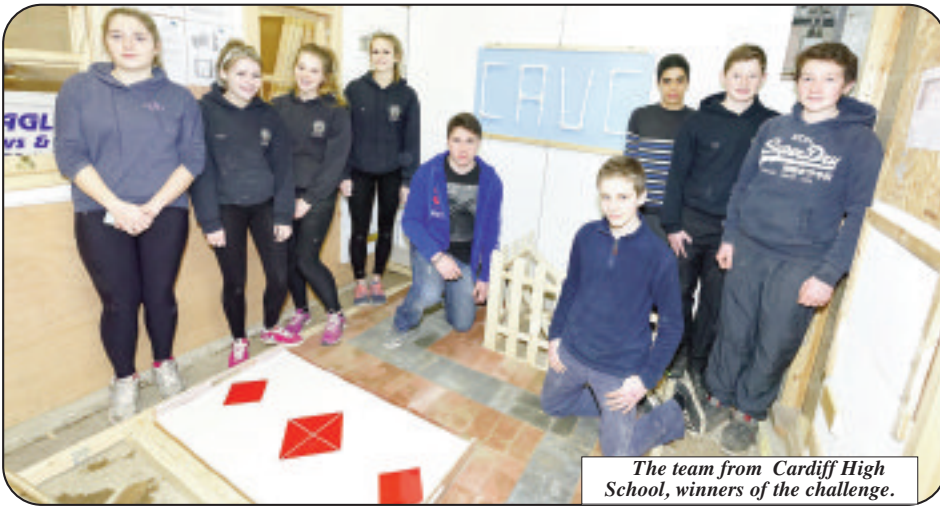
All supporters past

and present are welcome to see this great bunch of boys play sublime rugby before moving on to pastures new in the youth ranks next year.

Team: Iwan Williams, Scott Ankin, Jake Peers, Ethan Forrest, Lewis Sutton, Edward Thomas, Cai Jones (captain), Braidon Bennett, Ben Burrows, Tom Slimings, Scott Bunting, Evan Holloway, Ben Simpson, Steffan Bugler, Joe Hanson, Luc Morgan, Declan Ellis, Rhys Richards, Jacob Young, Saul Connelly, Ollie Rowbottom and James O'Donnell. AH



## Students take on college challenge



*The team from Cardiff High School, winners of the challenge.*

**CARDIFF and Vale College invited year-10 pupils from schools across the region to CAVC's Barry campus to test their construction skills.**

The pupils, from Cardiff High School, Western Cardiff Federation School and Cowbridge Comprehensive School took part in the college's design and construction challenge. Held during National Science and Engineering Week, the competition was designed to give school pupils a taste of the various tasks involved in the

construction industry and to show them the value of vocational education.

Each school team was given a training session then shown to a 2.5m2 square plot. They then selected a project manager and were split into contractors, each with a different task: paving the floor of the plot; designing and creating a tile mosaic; putting up fencing; and making the letters 'CAVC' out of piping as a test of plumbing skills.

*The team from Cardiff High School won the challenge, but the judges were extremely impressed by the quality of work and level of commitment from all of the teams.*

## DISABILITY ARTS CYMRU EXHIBITION

The Vale Council's international gallery, Art Central, is currently hosting Disability Arts Cymru's annual touring exhibition, which includes work by over 40 artists.

This year's annual touring exhibition is dedicated to the life of Mark Anthony Annis, a member of Disability Arts Cymru, who sadly passed away in May 2014. He spent his life combating Asperger's Syndrome, and was devoted to his art practice.

He was greatly influenced by early 20th century artists from the cubist movement and exhibited his

work widely throughout the UK and Europe.

Annis was also one of the 20 artists to exhibit in Art Central Gallery's inaugural exhibition held in 2006.

Among varied works are drawings by artist Gordon Farmer. It wasn't until the year 2000, when he suffered a spinal accident leaving him with limited mobility, that he began to draw.

Farmer said: "My art is a real therapy for me, as by concentrating on drawing I can find a new world with less discomfort."

*The exhibition ends this Saturday, April 25. All are welcome and entry is free via the Town Hall, Barry.*

## Chancellor applauds Vale businesses



**Chancellor of the Exchequer, George Osborne, last week joined Alun Cairns on a visit to the Vale and they met at Harris Pye in Llandow to discuss investment plans for sites in Barry and the wider Vale.**

Mr Cairns said: "I was delighted to have been able to welcome George Osborne to the Vale of Glamorgan. The Chancellor was very impressed with the investment plans for a growing local business."

"This is a great boost for local jobs, with unemployment continuing to fall, and it is wonderful to see a local firm expanding worldwide."

## Take a shoe box journey!

**THE Samaritan's Purse south-east Wales presents 'Shoe Box Journey - it's not just for Christmas' at Bethel Baptist Church Centre, Pontyclun, on May 9, from 10.15am - 12 noon.**

Hear a first-hand account of Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box distribution in Romania from Denise Dickman, who was there in December 2014.

Chris Roberts, Samaritan's Purse assistant OCC director of Field Ministries will also speak. There will be updates on last year's successful Shoe Box campaign in the area (22,499 boxes were sent) plus news of this year's campaign.

*Family friendly - all welcome. Contact shoebox4sew@gmail.com or text to Maggs Hibbert 07817 444417. Facebook: OCC South East Wales (Cardiff).*

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# LOVING WELSH FOOD LINKS UP WITH FOOD AND DRINK FESTIVAL

**COWBRIDGE is set to have its own specialised Welsh food and drink tours, it was announced this week and the launch ties in to the new Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival dates.**

A new company – Loving Welsh Food – will launch at Arboreal restaurant in Cowbridge on Tuesday, May 19 just ahead of the Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival on May 24 – 25, where it will debut the tours.

Director of Loving Welsh Food, Sian B Roberts, has been a regular at the festival in the

demo marquee and is appearing again at 10am on the Sunday of the festival.

Loving Welsh Food will offer two appetising bite-sized half day experiences in the Vale (1pm – 4.30pm) throughout the festival: 'Welshcakes and Wine' on Sunday and 'Afternoon Tea and Bubbly' on Bank Holiday Monday.

The Welshcakes and Wine tour will delve into the beautiful countryside surrounding Cowbridge and visitors will be treated to a tour of Hendrewennol Fruit Farm (another festival exhibitor) and Meadow View Vineyard, where they will be given the opportunity to sample some of the finest biscotti, ice cream, chocolate, fruit vinegars and sparkling wines in Wales.

The Afternoon Tea and Bubbly tour will include a trip to Llwyn Nwydige Farm and Meadow View Vineyard and visitors will be served up a cup of Welsh tea or coffee and a cake at Mrs O's Pop-up Tea Rooms while taking in the breath-taking views the 78-acre farm has to offer, followed by a glass of Gwin y Fro sparkling wine at the vineyard.

As well as food and drink tours, Loving Welsh Food offers safaris, Welsh cooking workshops, food talks and demonstrations. Tour tickets are

available at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/lovingwelshfood](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/lovingwelshfood).

Director of Loving Welsh Food Sian B Roberts said: "We're very excited about the launch at the fabulous Arboreal restaurant. We'll be inviting guests to find out about our future plans while sampling some of the fantastic Welsh food and drink produced in the Vale of Glamorgan."

"We can't wait to debut the tours at the Cowbridge Food and Drink festival; it's the perfect opportunity to demonstrate our new offering with like-minded people who love Welsh food and drink."

Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival Manager, Polly Wilson, said: "Sian has done an incredible job establishing the new company and the tours and safaris are a great way of showcasing the fine produce that Cowbridge and beyond has to offer."

"We'll be at the Loving Welsh Food launch for people wanting to find out more about the tours and the other fantastic activities we have lined up at this year's festival."

For more details about the food tours visit [www.lovingwelshfood.uk/news](http://www.lovingwelshfood.uk/news) or email [sian@lovingwelshfood.uk](mailto:sian@lovingwelshfood.uk).

To find out more about the Cowbridge Food

and Drink Festival contact Polly on 07875 290428, email [info@cowbridgefoodanddrink.org](mailto:info@cowbridgefoodanddrink.org). Full details and the complete lineup can be found on the website [www.cowbridgefoodanddrink.org](http://www.cowbridgefoodanddrink.org).

Tickets for the festival – which cost £5 per day or £8 for the weekend – can be purchased online with a 10 per cent discount on all pre-sale tickets. Children 12 years and under go free.

*This year's Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival takes place on Sunday, May 24 – 25.*

## ESS names Ty Hafan as its charity of choice

**ONE of the biggest teacher recruitment agencies in Wales has announced plans to raise funds for Ty Hafan children's hospice, as its charity of the year.**

Education Staffing Solutions, which has its head office in Cardiff and branches throughout south Wales and England, kicked off its sponsorship by giving a Ty Hafan family a day out at the Liberty Stadium during Ospreys Rabo 12 match against Zebre in Swansea.

The company is offering prizes for the charity's Hero Friday

fancy dress competition taking place during Children's Hospice Week (May 11-17) month and it is organising a Wales Onesie carnival in June. "Supporting children is central to everything that we do at Education Staffing Solutions so it was a no-brainer really," said chief executive Kevin Moyes.

"Ty Hafan has only been going for a little over 15 years, but it does a brilliant job in offering care to life-limited children. I have seen that at first hand, because my young nephew and his Mum and Dad have been given so much love and support by the carers at Ty Hafan."

## Regional AM hits out at hospital parking chaos

**ELUNED PARROTT, Welsh Liberal Democrat AM for south Wales central, has demanded urgent action on what many residents are calling 'traffic and parking chaos' at the University Hospital of Wales in Cardiff.**

"With ever-increasing services being provided at the site, visitors and residents attending outpatient appointments are regularly being

turned away from the hospital site due to existing car parks being unable to cope with the demand," she said.

"The situation has reached a critical point. It is not acceptable for outpatients, many of whom are unable to walk far, to be turned away from the site when they come for what for many are longstanding appointments."

"Far too often, traffic queues on the approach to the car parks delay ambulances trying to access

the site, which is extremely worrying."

"What is also concerning is that more people are likely to be directed to the hospital if services such as neonatal care and inpatient children's services are removed from the Royal Glamorgan Hospital in Llantrisant."

"I am calling on the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board to urgently address the issue," she concluded.

## Feral cats the purrfect choice for pest control!

**CATS Protection's Bridgend Adoption Centre has a surplus of working, out-door cats on its books.**

Most feral cats prefer the freedom of a working life to a comfortable lap in suburbia. We have had some very positive feedback in terms of reduced rodent problems from the many farms, stables and warehouses that have adopted a feral or two from us.

A pair of feral/outdoor cats can provide a very efficient and environmentally-friendly alternative to chemical pest control. Garden centres, golf clubs, smallholdings, farms, stables, shops; in fact,

anywhere where there is room to roam and rodents to catch, will provide working cats with a suitable environment in which to live and work.

Owners must be prepared to provide their feline employees with food, water, some shelter and veterinary care when needed. Contrary to popular belief, regular food and neutering will not affect a feral cat's desire to catch prey.

If you would like to provide a home for a feral cat please contact Cats Protection's Bridgend Adoption Centre on 01656 724396 or email [bridgend@cats.org.uk](mailto:bridgend@cats.org.uk).

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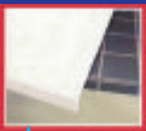
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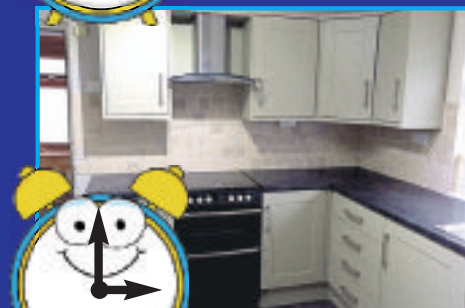
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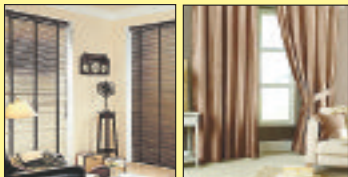
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# Phoenix's tournament is a great success!



PHOTOS BY JULIE HANCOCK

**THE very first Pencoed Phoenix under-18s girls rugby tournament took place at Pencoed Comprehensive School, the final being played at Pencoed RFC, sponsored and supported by Chris Bevan of Invacare Pencoed.**

The teams came from Pencoed, Porth, Carmanthen Quins, Whitland, Treorchy, Caerphilly, Wattstown, Cardiff Quins and Gwernfedyd. There were two pool rounds and the top two of each pool played in the semi-finals and finals.

There were appearances from newly-appointed WRU national manager of women's rugby Caroline Spanton and rugby development

officer Dean Ronan, with players from the Wales team, Shona Powell Hughes and the Phoenix's very own Mel Clay.

The turn out for the day was amazing and the standard of girls rugby was excellent across the board. Everybody had a fun time and Pencoed Phoenix got themselves into the semi-finals of the tournament against Cardiff Quins.

Cardiff went on to win the event by playing Wattstown in the final. This tournament is set to be even bigger and better for girls rugby in the future.

Special thanks to everyone who gave up their time, the coaches, first aiders, referees and parents, sponsors, supporters and players, who made the day a very memorable one.



## Sports slip to NHSOB defeat

**BRIDGEND Sports' under-15s' penultimate match of the season was an opportunity to gain revenge on NHSOB, who won the reverse fixture earlier in the season.**

The Sports were hopeful of claiming revenge on NHSOB due to their recent good form.

Both teams made a slow start to an error strewn first half of rugby where neither side did enough to take control of the game.

The Sports conceded several first half penalties which certainly affected the Sports' ability to make some valuable ground. Therefore, the visitors enjoyed most of the territory and opened the scoring through a lineup close to the line which set up one of their players to score from short distance.

The first try seemingly settled down NHSOB, who soon extended their lead to 12 points after benefiting from some good build up play. The away side demonstrated some good passing rugby that made the vital yards needed to score under the posts.

The closing minutes of the half saw the Sports fail to capitalise on some much needed chances which had to be

taken if the Sports were to win the game. Consequently the Sports went into halftime trailing by a deficit of 12 points.

If the Sports were to have any hope of a comeback it was crucial for them to score the first try to get back within touching distance.

Unfortunately though this hope did not come to fruition as the visitors broke the Sports' defensive line to score a long range try which meant that the Sports were now trailing by 17 points.

However it was evident to see that the spirited Sports did not give up hope of a victory as prop Dewi Ronan made an almost immediate impact by showing good commitment as ever to reach over the try line from close range to give the Sports a way back into the match.

But NHSOB soon

quashed any hopes of a Sports victory by scoring a further try to increase their lead to 22-5. Typically of the Sports, this blow did not dampen the boys' spirits as flanker Joe Davis scored the try of the match after combining both speed and skill to score a long range try under the posts. As a result of this remarkable try, the final score was 22-12 to NHSOB.

As always, the boys gave their all in a match that was always going to be a test. Regardless of defeat, the boys can still take some positives from this match such as winning the second half 12-10 and by improving on the scoreline from the away fixture.

Hopefully, the Sports can round off a highly successful season with a win this week.

TP



## News from Porthcawl Bridge Club

**THE latest results from Porthcawl Bridge Club as follows:**

Saturday, April 4: First, Colin and Hazel Heard; second, Roger Plant and Betty Longley.

Monday, April 6: First, Trish Saunders and Pat Haworth; second, Gary Williams and Tony Haworth.

Thursday, April 9: First, Rob Charlesworth and Keith Davison; second, Emer Disley and Betty Longley.

Saturday, April 11: First, Colin and Hazel Heard; joint second, Roger Plant and Betty Longley, Connie Dick and Roger Draper.

Monday, April 13:

First, Peter Bennett and Jean Hughes; second, Maurice and Margaret Harris.

Thursday, April 16: First, Keith Davison and Tony Haworth; second, Dil and Marian Evans.

The next seminar at the club is now on May 14, when the topic will be 'Negative Doubles'.

The club meets three times a week - Saturday and Thursday at the Awel-y-Mor centre, and Monday at the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel 7pm - 10.15pm. Visitors welcome at any time.

To contact the club, call our secretary Trish on 01656 785794.

TH

## Girls team training

**PENCOED boys and girls club are setting up a girls under-12s team; training is on a Wednesday at Pencoed ATP from 5-6pm.**

We welcome your sports reports, news and other items of interest - email us at: [gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk](mailto:gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk)

# Bradley is the star with a 'four-timer' as the point-to-point season arrives in Pyle

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A YOUNG rider from Ynysybwl took the plaudits at the Llangeinor and Pentyrch Hunts Point-to-Point Steeplechases at the Dunraven Stud held at Llanmihangel Farm, Pyle.

Bradley Gibbs, just 20, rode a four-timer on a day of thrilling racing.

GEM photographer Glyn Evans was on hand to capture the excitement and colour of the day.

As you can see, Glyn's images illustrate the courage of the jockeys and why so many people in Bridgend and the Vale love point-to-point as a spectacle.

Turn to page 39 for a full report of the day's racing.



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<b>MILWARD ROAD</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ideal for first time buyer</li> <li>• 2 double bedroom, mid terraced property</li> <li>• Quiet residential area of Barry, close to shops and train station</li> <li>• No forward chain</li> </ul> <b>(SIMILAR PROPERTIES REQUIRED)</b>	<b>SEVERN AVENUE</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Modern 3 bedroom</li> <li>• End link property</li> <li>• Popular residential estate</li> <li>• Ideal for a first time buyer/investor</li> </ul> <b>(SIMILAR PROPERTIES REQUIRED)</b>	<b>WOODHAM PARK</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large modern detached</li> <li>• In a quiet cul-de-sac on a popular residential development</li> <li>• Outskirts of Barry</li> </ul> <b>(SIMILAR PROPERTIES REQUIRED)</b>	<b>MOUNTBATTEN ROAD</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detached 3 or 4 bedroom property</li> <li>• Off road parking</li> <li>• Spacious living accommodation</li> </ul> <b>(SIMILAR PROPERTIES REQUIRED)</b>	<b>BUTTRILLS ROAD</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rare opportunity</li> <li>• Unique detached period-style property</li> <li>• Spacious, 4 beds, 2 reception rooms, good sized garden</li> <li>• In the heart of Barry</li> </ul> <b>(SIMILAR PROPERTIES REQUIRED)</b>
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(13.09.1935 - 26.04.2012)

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## MAZEY Edmund

Suddenly after a short illness at University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff, Eddie aged 97 years. Beloved husband of the late Mary, much loved dad of Anne and son-in-law John, also a loved gramps to Kathryn and the boys.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son until the funeral service in The Chapel of Rest on Monday, April 27 at 2pm, followed by committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu if so desired for Orchard House Residential Home c/o the funeral director.

## HELLINGER Brian Anthony

Passed away on April 18 at University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff. Beloved husband of Margaret, dearly loved father of Craig and daughter-in-law Nicola and much loved by his grandson Antony.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son until the funeral service on Wednesday, April 29 at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry at 1pm. Family flowers only.

## HARVEY Colin Richard

Peacefully on April 17 at the University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff. Colin, devoted husband of Anna. Much loved dad to Neil, Claire and Ian, cherished grampy to all his grandchildren.

Colin will be dearly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting in the private chapel of The Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Barry until his service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Wednesday, May 6 at 10am. Family flowers only, donations if desired may be made to The RAF Benevolent Fund or The Royal British Legion. All enquiries to Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service.

## MATTHEWS Fay Patricia Margaret (née Probert)

Passed away suddenly but peacefully on April 12, aged 78 years. Devoted wife of Brynley, much loved mum of Gwyneth, Mervyn, Bronwen, Eirwen, Allin and Gareth. Adored nan and great-grandmother to all her grandchildren.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son, Tynwydd Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry until her funeral service at St David's Methodist Church, Winston Road, Barry on Thursday, April 30 at 1.45pm, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery at 2.45pm.

Flowers may be sent to the funeral home.

## METCALF Daphne Vivienne

Passed away peacefully on 15th April 2015 at Derriford Hospital, Plymouth aged 86 years. Beloved wife of James (deceased), loving mother of Julian, Nigel and Andrew, mother-in-law of Sonja and Eileen and dearest nana of Jemima, Dylan and Rory.

Funeral service at Efford Crematorium, Plymouth on Tuesday, 28th April at 2pm.

All flowers and enquiries to Walter C. Parson Funeral Directors, The Stables, 32 West Street, Tavistock, PL19 8JY. Tel: 01822 617300

## GEORGE

### Louise (née Thomas)

Peacefully, after a very short illness, on April 15, at Withybush Hospital, Haverfordwest, Louise, eldest daughter of Percy and Xantippe Thomas, formerly of Splott Farm, St Donats.

Beloved wife of the late Graham George and much loved mother of Carolyn, Penelope and Christopher, and mother-in-law to Alistair and Elizabeth. Cherished Gran of Rhiannon, Simon, Rebecca and Owain, and adored Great Gran of Iona, Zachary, Xanti and Phoebe.

Funeral service will be held on Monday, April 27 at St Andrews Church, Narberth at 11.30am, followed by committal at Parc Gwyn Crematorium, Narberth at 12.15pm.

Family flowers only - donations in memory of Louise can be made payable to British Red Cross and sent to: Ms Penny George, Ysgubor Hen, Honey Hook, Llangwm, Pembrokeshire, SA62 4JR.

## HORSEY

### Alan Alexander

Passed away peacefully on March 25, beloved husband of Pauline. Dearly loved father of Julian, much loved father-in-law of Angharad and devoted grandpa of Seren. Will be sadly missed by all family and friends.

Funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium on Monday, April 27 at 11am. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to Parkinsons UK Cymru, Maritime Offices, Woodland Terrace, Maesycoced, Pontypridd, CF37 1BZ.

## Frank Mitchell

Time unfolds  
another year, but  
memories keep  
you ever near.

Love Shirley and  
family xx

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# Barry Thirds entertain touring team

## BARRY THIRD XV entertained the visit of touring side King's Royal Hussars on a fine, dry Saturday afternoon at Reservoir Fields.

After a long hard season it was fitting for manager Frank Greig and Ken Chow be afforded some luxury in team selection as numerous players made themselves available.

Will King made his first appearance for the club in 18 months, while there were also debuts for Nick Hillman on the wing and Connor Woodfin from the bench.

Barry knew they were up against the odds early on when the Hussars demonstrated their superior fitness and intensity with some good strong runs. They were, however, repelled by some brilliant scramble defence, most notably from Rhidian Mephram and flanker Morgan Fogg.

The Hussars utilised their giant No. 8 at the base of the scrum to cause havoc in the Barry defence, but often their lack of match practice showed as the ball was knocked on.

The home side fed off scraps but eventually

pieced together some phases. The line-out began to function with King a colossal figure, and the half-back partnership of Mephram and Chris Bailey began to move things forward.

Following some indiscretion by the visiting side, Barry found themselves in opposition territory for the first time. Playing with tremendous

patience and composure, they were rewarded with the first try when Glyn Pirso crashed over from close range. Hillman failed to add the extras.

Roused from their slumber, the away side responded with a superb break by the back row, which put Barry under enormous pressure. The result was a try from out wide, despite the best

efforts of Kirsch, which went unconverted to level the scores.

With the wind in their sails, both metaphorically and literally speaking, the Hussars came forward again before the break and were rewarded with another close-range try, although there was some doubt as to whether the ball was grounded. The conversion gave them a 12-5 lead at halftime.

Looking to utilise the boot in the second half with the elements in their favour, Barry started well, especially after Ring, Howells-Davies and Morris were sent on for some fresh impetus.

However, it was the visitors who once again showed the greater fitness and also a larger bench, and despite the efforts of Jones, Mephram, Poole and ultimately King, it was another 40 minutes of rearguard action by the green-and-whites.

Barry would hold out for long periods in their own half in the second period but finally succumbed in the last quarter, when the Hussars added three tries near the end to reward their territorial superiority. The final score was 29-5.

The management would like to thank the superb effort by all the players for the game and also the King's Royal Hussars for being superb tourists. We sincerely hope to welcome them again next season.

Barry Third XV will finish their season with a home game against touring side Mold this weekend.

Team: Poole; Kirsch, D Evans, Davies, Hillman; Bailey, Mephram; Pirso, Leighton Jones, Fortt; Deyes, Betts; Fogg, Lloyd Jones ©, King. Replacements: Ring, Howells-Davies, Woodfin, Morris, E Evans, Rees, Adams. Man-of-the-match: Fogg.

KC

## GORDON LANDS A HOLE-IN-ONE

A Wenvoe golfer will have no excuse for missing his next tee-time after winning a limited-edition BOSS watch for achieving a hole-in-one.

Gordon MacPherson, 69, scored his with a six-iron ace on the 159-yard, par-three ninth at Wenvoe Castle GC, and the 10-handicapper was rewarded with membership of the exclusive BOSS Watches H1Club and a specially-commissioned, commemorative timepiece.

The luxury German brand has once again pledged to reward club golfers with an exclusive watch for every hole-in-one recorded during a club competition in 2015.

In addition to the limited-edition watch, MacPherson joins more than 7,000 members in the BOSS Watches H1Club which offers access to exclusive benefits and merchandise.

## Accommodation

### Doosan Babcock Accommodation Required

Aberthaw Power Station shutdown for 16 weeks. Any sort of accommodation is required for men coming to site. Contact Office Manager Jenny Webb on 01446 750271 ext 2675 or Clive Thorne on ext 2277.

## Property Wanted

### Thinking of Moving!

Cash buyer looking for property in  
**Rhoose**

Preferably Fontygary Road or  
Fonnon Road area.  
Anything considered.



Please do not hesitate to give us  
a ring on **07599 225614**

## Birthdays

### Tasmine Amy Fitzpatrick



Happy 10th Birthday  
to our baby girl on 20th April

Lots of love from Mummy,  
Gareth & Jess, Nanny &  
Granshi and all your  
Uncles, Aunts &  
Cousins. Xxx

### OMG LOOK WHO'S 40

Jo  
Eveleigh  
(Née Staples)  
on 23 April

Love you lots, Mum,  
Dad & all the family xxx



### Dianne Brown Happy 60th Birthday on 25th April



Lots of Love from  
Philip, Just  
Steven,  
Gareth,  
Peter &  
Mitch. XXX

### Happy 50th

John  
Mitchell  
from all your  
friends at

RPM  
SHOPFRONTS



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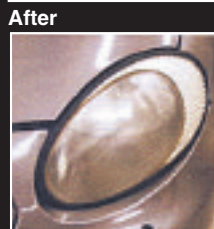
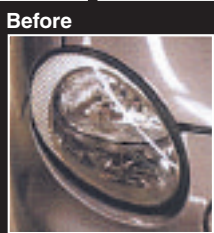
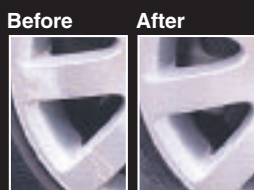
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## Gymnasts shine at events



### BARRY YMCA gymnasts recently enjoyed success at the South Central Modified Grades event.

Caitlin Meadows and Kelsey Cross both competed in Modified grade 3. Caitlin took the overall title and placed 1st on bars and beam, and 2nd on vault and floor. Kelsey placed 2nd overall, 1st on floor and vault, 2nd on bars and floor.

Hana Davis (7) also competed on the same day in the South Central 7 Years Prep event. She claimed the overall title and also gained another two gold medals on beam and range & conditioning, silver on bars and floor and bronze on vault.

More Barry YMCA gymnasts were in action at the Welsh Grades events. Bria Karim, Erin Gamble and Evie Wong all successfully completed the required skills to pass their Grade 3. All three scored high enough to be awarded a 'highly commended'.

Celyn Powell, Laila-Jade Lang and Sophia Foscolo enjoyed similar success in Grade 4. Celyn and Sophia gained 'highly commended' while Laila-Jade secured a

'pass'. Lily Foscolo was entered for her first grading - grade 6. She demonstrated lovely work to gain a 'highly commended'.

Congratulations to all gymnasts and thank you to coaches Aimee, Anne, Charlotte, Karen and Sophie for their hard work coaching the above girls.

Barry YMCA are looking for future competition hopefuls and will shortly be holding an open day to identify talented children to join their competitive preparation group.

Prospective gymnasts do not need to be able to perform any particular skills, the coaches are looking for children who are strong, flexible and brave enough to try out new things.

If you are interested in your daughter attending this open day please visit the following Facebook page [www.facebook.com/ymcabarry](http://www.facebook.com/ymcabarry) and leave your daughters name, date of birth and a contact number. Alternatively contact YMCA Barry on 01446 724001 and leave your details.

KD

## The Barry & District men's skittle league

### DIVISION 1:

49'ers. (P.Solowyk 29) 286, Geest (J.Hawkins 32) 289; Bunker Boys (K.Hewitson 33) 252, Colcot Boys (A.Bumford 28); Ex-Servicemen (H.Hellyar 32) 270, The Hairy Lemons (S.Gully 28) 274; The Hairy Lemons (R.Ryles 27) 273, Colcot Boys (T.Sherrin 25) 239.

### DIVISION 2:

Abercete (N.Morgan, S.Miller 27) 273, the Royalists (G.Davies 32) 262; Barry Social (B.Allen 25) 236, Buffs Exiles (B.Griffiths 27) 261; Exiles (M.Bumford 28) 284, Willie Wombles (B.Gratton 34) 300; Posties (M.Gallimore 29) 285, Witchill Poachers (D.Adams 29) 278; Sea View (R.Inledon, B.Wastkins 28) 297, BP

Breakaways (J.Mills 30) 275; Tynny Fliers (G.Hobbs, S.Taylor, P.Snook 29) 288, Abercete (D.Arnold 27) 284; Tynewydd Lads (C.Wright 29) 276, Tynny Fliers (A.Davies 29) 265; Willie Wombles (P.Taylor 32) 285, Tynewydd Lads (D.Sluman 34) 280; Witchill Wizards (D.Casado, D.Britton 32) 338, Road Runners (J.Norris 35) 264.

### DIVISION 3:

Billy Whizz (A.O'Brien 29) 250, British Rail 253; C.U.D.(D.Perington 32) 263, KP Monkeynuts (M.Alanui, K.Payne 27) 271; Cannon Balls (G.Currie 32) 304, Billy Whizz (A.O'Brien, S.Coombes 30) 274.

HR



## The Barry & District leagues and results

### CRIB DIVISION 1:

Railway 6, Rhoose Social 9; West End 9, Cadoxton Cons 5, Liberals 10; Wyndham Cons 6, Moors Boys 9.

League table: Liberals B 104, Savoy A 96, West End C 79, Cadoxton Cons B 76, Cadoxton Cons Z 76, Rhoose End Wanderers 186, Social C 60, Rhoose Social B 59, Wyndham Cons A 57, Harbour A 56, Penarth Cons B 48, Savoy B 47, Wyndham Cons C 47.

### SKITTLES DIVISION 1

Sea View B 6, Cambrian Flyers 1; King William XII 0, Rugby Club 7; Allsorts 2, Rhoose Social B 5; Slammers 6.5, Rhoose Social A 0.5; Runway Club 5, Rhoosters 2; Liberals C 2, West End C 5; Rhoose Social C 7, Barries Boys 0; West End D 6, Liberals A 1.

League table: Sea View B 127, West End C 121.5, Allsorts 106, King William XII 99, West End D 97.5, Slammers 94.5, Rugby Club 94, Barries Boys 89.5, Rhoose Social B 85, Rhoose Social A 84, Rhoosters 81.5, Rhoose Social C 71.5, Liberals A 66, Runway Club 60.5, Cambrian Flyers 60, Liberals C 55.5.

League table: Railway A 93, Market Street C 78, Penarth Cons D 73, Liberators 72, Market Street B 71, Railway B 70, Services Social B 67, Cadoxton Cons A 63, Penarth Cons A 59, Sully Sports A 57, \*Railway C 50, West End B 47 (\* = points deducted).

All league & cup fixtures and results at [www.barryleagues.co.uk](http://www.barryleagues.co.uk)

and on Facebook - search for 'barry leagues'.

JW

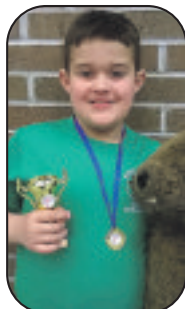
## Bridge results

**RESULTS for the Vale of Glamorgan Bridge Club, Celtic Sims competition on April 20:**

1st Tony Disley & Phil Felman 70.24%, 2nd Tony Ratcliffe & Patrick Jourdain 60.71%, 3rd Mike Best & Kevin Maddox 57.44%.

LE

# The Barry Beavers excel in Carmarthen swimming event



**BARRY** Beavers went to Carmarthen on April 18 to compete against seven other Welsh clubs, and we came second overall, getting four gold, six silver and one bronze medal out of 21 swimmers.

Even though we were 10 swimmers down, the ones that competed did fantastically well and we are all very proud of them.

The medalists are: gold - Abigail Finch, Callum Savory, Courtney Rogers; junior relay: Tyler Savory, Jesse Rodgers, Courtney Rogers & Abigail Finch. Silver - Ketra Richards (her first gala), Jack Kemp, Louis Davies, Ffion Jones, Tyler Savory, James Jones. Bronze - senior relay: Mark Eveleigh, Gareth Lloyd, Nicky Cushen, James Jones.

The other swimmers taking part, who all missed out in such tight races (under a quarter of a second in many cases) were: Joanna Davies, Shannon Rogers, Philip Daly, Talisha Rogers, Katie Rosser (her first gala), Will Griffiths, Sarah Davies, Layla Rogers. We shouldn't forget our two instructors, Christopher Economides and Sarah Davies; they competed against other instructors from the other clubs taking part so well done.

We look forward to our next event in Ebbw Vale in May. A big thank you to the mums that came with us to support our club.

PF



## Athletic cricketers celebrate 125 years



**ON Saturday Barry Athletic Cricket Club held its 125th anniversary dinner at The Masonic Hall in Barry, with Phil Steele as the guest speaker.**

The night was a great success with over 80 people attending the event for a four course meal, the new and old mixed on a brilliant night.

Dil Samuel, Gary Morgan, Simon Westphal, Geraint Evans, Rhys Davies, John Clogg and Carl Thomas were seven of the Welsh Cup winning side from 1985 in attendance on the night, with Doug Curtin, John Murphy, Alan Storey and Huw Grove, who were also part of the winning side, unable to attend. Other old players from that era who were in attendance on the night were Owain Clements, Tim Clements,

Owain Thomas, Billy Davies, Keith Selway, Paul Adams, Peter Robinson, Kelvin Rosser, Colin Davies and Lindsay Bennett.

The dinner was compared by vice chairman Steve Jones, with speeches from first team captain John Gee, chairman Peter Hellyar and a toast by Glan Williams, with Phil Steele having the audience in laughter with his stories of a 20 plus year career with the BBC.

The night was a great success and the club have more planned for the year.

This Saturday Barry Athletic are at home to Blackwood at the Athletic Ground with a 1pm start; on Sunday a select side will play Barry West End, also a 1pm start.

MR

# NO LONGER BOOM TIME FOR POINTS

**THE GEM's Brian Lee, who first reported on the Welsh hunting scene back in 1966, takes another look through his many press cuttings scrap books and discovers a time when the hunts received a lot more entries than they do today.**

**ON February 9, 1985, under the heading Boom Time For Racing, I wrote: 'Point-To-Point racing has never been so popular. Despite the firm ground for most of last season, there were over 12,000 runners at meetings up and down the country. Between February 23 and May 18, 18 meetings are due to be held in the south and west Wales areas.'**

Well this season, only a total of 14 hunts applied for fixtures in these two areas and one of these had to be abandoned owing to the course being waterlogged.

The number of entries received so far this season is certainly down on past years. The Banwen Miners, for instance, had a whopping 43 entries for their men's open race and 33 entries for their adjacent hunt's race back in 1985.

That was the year I

tipped in the press *Hallo Dandy* to win the Grand National and under the heading 'Hywel Tradition' I wrote: 'Cardigan-born Hywel Davies is the second successive jump jockey from Wales to win the Grand National, following Neale Doughty on *Hallo Dandy* last year.'

(Incidentally, Neale Doughty, a former member of the Llangineir Hunt Pony Club, came from Kenfig Hill.)

Hywel's victory has given Welsh Hunt racing a tremendous boost as before he joined the paid ranks he regularly took part in Welsh point-to-point races. I recall seeing him at his brilliant best at Lydstep some years ago when the horse he was riding, *Heather's Son*, was brought to a standstill halfway through the race when another horse fell in front of him. Somehow or other he got his mount going again, and to the surprise of everyone on the course, managed to get up in the last 50 yards to pip the favourite.

Other Welsh point-to-pointers Hywel was associated with were *Romany Park* and *Knight's Queen*.

However, in his very last ride in a Welsh point-to-point, before he turned professional, he was auspiciously unseated at the Llangineir Hunt.

Hywel, who was given the kiss of life after being thrown at Doncaster a couple of seasons ago, is the younger brother of Geraint Davies, a National Hunt jockey of note before injuries forced him to retire.

Hywel, who has written himself into the racing history books, follows the tradition of other Welshmen like Jack Anthony, Fred Rees, Evan Williams, Mervyn Jones, Fulke Walwyn and Neale Doughty, who have all been successful in the world's greatest steeplechase.

I also reported that at the Gelligaer point-to-point: 'Scott Perry, aged 20, chalked up his first win when winning the men's open race on Milton Bradley's *Santoss*.' Sadly, Scot was later killed in a farming accident if my memory serves me right.

The ladies' open race at this meeting was won by Shan Morgan aboard *Luchello* and Brian Price recorded a double on *Team* and *Captain Rondo*.

Beth Llewellyn from Bargoed rode her first winner on *Ballytask* in the hunt race and Joe Price took the adjacent hunt's race on his 14-year-old ex-chaser *Hobo*.

Under the heading 'Alison First' I recorded that: 'Alison Kenniford, a bank clerk from Ystrad Mynach, had her first ride in a point-to-point at the Talybont yesterday and landed the members' race, despite falling at the eighth fence.'

'Alison remounted her bay gelding *Grange Lad*, who caught the favourite *Riverside OK*, who had earlier unseated his rider

Andrew James at the second fence, to win by six lengths.' While at the Curragh: 'The men's open race went to *Yellow Jersey*, trained at Bridgend by his owner Geoffrey Hamer, and ridden by Paul Hamer the owner's younger brother.'

There was a record entry of 173 horses for the Glamorgan Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechase this year and I reported: 'Cyril Liley's *Ocean Boy*, ridden by John Thomas, took the first division of the maiden, officially by half-a-length. But from the bank the margin seemed a lot closer. There were those who thought *Ardician* had won. Leading riders John Llewellyn and Tim Rooney landed doubles. Llewellyn scored with *Suiker Bous* and *Master Straight* and Rooney won on *Time Breaker* and *Savage Sally*.'

For the first time in 15 years, an evening point-to-point meeting was held in Wales when the Tredegar Farmers held their meeting in Cwmbran and Carol Lee, wife of National Hunt trainer Richard Lee, chalked up her sixth win of the season on *Maetta Crescent*, who beat *Debt Follower* in an exciting finish.

St Athan's John Thomas took the maiden race on *Wonder Dream*.

You can e-mail your point-to-point or horse racing stories and pictures to [brianlee4@virginmedia.com](mailto:brianlee4@virginmedia.com) or phone on 02920 736438.

## Wanderers take spoils of victory

**IN their second pre-season friendly, Sully Centurions narrowly lost to neighbours Barry Wanderers, after a game that had its fair share of interesting moments!**

Batting first, Sully started brightly as openers Tom Davies and Nathan Baker put on 37 for the first wicket, when Baker was caught for 23 off the bowling of Cole.

Tom was then joined by new boy Santos who also looked in good touch before he too was caught for 33.

Davies and Adam Sylvester (34) took the score along to 130 when Davies was bowled for 47. The scoring rate slowed down considerably after the halfway mark, thanks to some accurate bowling from Sandhu, Hassett and Downey.

Lloyd Bruce's 29, a quick cameo of 13 from Jake Griffith and 15 at the death from the returning Peter Thomas gave the score some respectability. Centurions were

eventually all out for 217.

Wanderers' opening pair of Hannerford and Blundell never put a foot wrong as they piled on the runs. They had put on 179 for the first wicket when Hannerford was stumped by stand-in wicketkeeper Jake Griffith (on for the injured Baker) off the bowling of Bruce for a marvellous 113.

The next wicket fell only one run later as Santos bowled Croft for a duck. With Baker off injured and the early exits of Ellis and Sylvester, Centurions finished the match with only eight players on the field and the Wanderers' batsmen found the gaps in the field with increasing regularity.

However, the match went down to the last over when Blundell, who carried his bat for 80, hit the winning runs with two balls to spare. Wanderers fully deserved the victory and Centurions now look forward to the return match later in the season.

*Sully Centurions 217 all out; Barry Wanderers 218 for 2.*

MF

## Brynhill ladies get all arty!



**On April 7, Brynhill ladies welcomed the artistic talents of Vaughan Cummins with a fantastic lesson in how to turn a blank canvas into a work of art.**

In only two hours, using acrylic paint and various sizes of palette knives, he produced an amazing landscape of Snowdonia. It was a remarkable evening watching his masterpiece take shape, and all in absolute silence.

The latest competition

results are: March 31, Easter Egg winner Rose Pitman, 18pts, runner-up Jan Tattersell, 16pts; April 7, Rabbits and Tigers, winners Glynis Gould and Helena Combes 79.5.net; runners-up Di Tapscott and Linda Hewlett, 81 net; April 14, Jo Whitehouse Cup, winner Gemma Evans, 37pts, runner-up Jo Kirkpatrick 35pts; Gran's Trophy, winner Jo Kirkpatrick 35pts over the back 9 from Linda Hewlett.

CH

# The Vale Cup finals are in full swing

**THE Vale of Glamorgan Association Football League started the end of season finals on Friday, April 8, with the Dockers Cup.**

The Division 2 League Cup final saw Barry Belgrade FC take on Vale United FC. After letting in the first goal, Barry Belgrade came back with three unanswered goals to take the trophy, final score Barry Belgrade 3, Vale United FC 1.

On Sunday, April 10, Division 1 took centre stage with Tynewydd FC playing VIFC. As the league leaders,

Two Jordan Mortimer goals in the second half put one hand on the cup, but a late surge by Tynewydd FC saw Dale Miller pull one back. With only seconds remaining a heavy tackle from Gareth Union saw a red card being issued, leaving Tynewydd FC with 10 men but the whistle went soon after. Final score Tynewydd FC 1, VIFC 2.

The junior section

started their finals on Thursday, April 16, with the Year 11 Cup, the Classic Sportswear Trophy. Holton Road FC took on Sully Sports Reds in a very close match; so close that after 80 minutes plus 20 minutes extra time, the score remained 0-0.

This meant the match was to be decided on penalties. Sully Sports started and scored two and missed their third but then scored their fourth. Holton Road got their first three in and had their fourth saved.

The fifth penalties for each team were scored, even a retaken Holton Road one as it was taken and saved before the referee blew his whistle! Sudden death then saw Sully Sports have their sixth penalty saved and Holton Road then scored to lift the Classic Sportswear Trophy.

The following night, Barry Town United FC took on Sully Sports Blues in the Year 7 final for the Brian Riseborough Cup.

Three goals from Louis Harding, Macauley Marks and

Cian Anderson was enough to see Barry Town United win the trophy, final score Barry Town United FC 3, Sully Sports Blues 0.

Lastly on Sunday, April 19, in the morning the Harry Gratton Trophy was up for grabs in the Year 9 final between Barry Town United FC and Cogan Coronation FC.

A close game saw the game decided in the first half. A goal by Brooklyn McCabe saw Barry Town United FC take the lead but Cogan replied before halftime with goals from Luke Warcow and Arron Archer. Early in the second half, Barry

Town United FC saw their goalkeeper sent off but no further goals were scored. Final score Barry Town United FC 1, Cogan Coronation 2.

The last Senior League Cup took place in the afternoon with Cardiff Airport FC taking on Cowbridge Town FC in the ASRS Cup; a replay of last year's Barry Cup final.

However, this year saw Cardiff Airport manage to gain a measure of revenge. Jermaine Martin scored two first half goals to give Cardiff Airport FC the lead by halftime and a third goal - in the form of an own goal -

followed in the second to secure the ASRS Cup for Cardiff Airport FC. Final score Cardiff Airport 3, Cowbridge Town FC 0.

The finals continue this week with Cogan Coronation playing Sully Sports Reds in the Year 8 Cup Final on Friday, April 24, kick off 6.15pm. Then Sunday sees the Year 10 final between Holton Road FC and Sully Sports FC at 10.15am before the last final, the Barry Cup between Vale United FC and VIFC, kick off 2.15pm.

MD

## SPORTS PROJECTS ARE PROSPERING IN THE LOCAL AREA

**A doorstep sport project aimed at getting young people more active, more often in their own communities is thriving in the Barry area.**

Delivered by the Vale Council's Sports Development team and Barry Communities First, the project provides activities "on the doorstep" for young people aged nine to 16 years who want to take part in sport.

The project was recently shortlisted for Street Games New Project of the Year at the UK awards ceremony, recognising the new activities that have been introduced as well as the

new partnerships that have been developed.

There was further success when the Friday Night Football project led by police community supports officers and dedicated local volunteers Scott Nelson and David Chambers won the Newydd five-a-side football tournament, competing against teams from across south Wales.

With warmer weather on the way, there are a number of outdoor activities taking place.

Multi-sport events will be available at Pencoeetre Park, Gibbonsdown on Mondays from 4.30pm to 5.30pm, Victoria Park, Cadroxton on Mondays from 5.45pm to 6.45pm, Central Park every Thursday led by Elim

cycling skills. Sessions are led by qualified leaders and volunteers and are aimed at young people aged nine or over.

All sessions are currently free of charge and as there is no booking needed any young people interested in attending sessions can simply turn up.

These projects are delivered as part of the Vale Sport plan with the aim of increasing participation in sport and physical activity. The project contributes towards the Council's aim of reducing health inequalities and ensuring residents are able to access the necessary services, information and advice to improve their wellbeing and quality of life.

A number of other partners are also involved in the delivery of the project including Vale Volunteer Bureau, Police Community Support Officers, Elim Elevate, World at Play and Newydd.

For further information, contact Sports Development Officer Rachel Shepherd on 07730 749485, Adele Twomey of Barry

Communities First on 01446 709825, or visit [www.barrystreetgames.org](http://www.barrystreetgames.org).

## Free taster sessions for females

**SPORTS clubs within the Vale hosted free taster sessions and open days throughout March for local women and girls.**

Thirteen clubs in the local area signed up to take part in the event to encourage more women and girls to become physically active. Each of the clubs provided open days or taster sessions for free to promote activities on offer to women and girls in the Vale.

As a result, over 150 women and girls accessed sports activities at the participating clubs, with

Windsor Tennis Club leading the way and attracting over 100 female participants. Other successful clubs included Penarth Rowing Club and Vale Women and Girls Football Club.

Ben Williams, AYP Officer for the Vale, said: "This was a great opportunity for local clubs to promote the many sports activities that take place in the local area. We wanted to show what's available for women and girls and are pleased the #MarchOnGirls campaign was a success."

Rob Wedlake, tennis coach at Windsor Tennis Club, said: "We

were delighted with the take-up and feedback from the #MarchOnGirls campaign which helped us to attract a raft of new players to our club at an annual open day. More than 250 children, parents and adult tennis players visited us for a variety of coaching and social tennis activities, of which at least half were female. As a result we will now be running ladies-only 'Tennis Tuesday' sessions from May 5, and offering further girls and ladies taster sessions during the Wimbledon fortnight."

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# Anticipation builds ahead of point-to-point highlights

**The Dunraven Bowl**  
BRIDGEND builder Roger Willcox and engineering company boss Bill Corrigan, joint owners of *Patrickton Boru*, recent winner of the men's open race at the Ystrad Taf Fechan Hunt Point-To-Point, are hoping that their eight-year-old bay gelding, which finished fourth in the Dunraven Bowl Novices' Hunter Chase at Chepstow Racecourse last year, will be first past the post this time on Friday (April 24).

A number of horses owned and trained in the Vale have qualified for the race which is the highlight for many of the Welsh point-to-point season. The race's sponsor David Brace OBE has yet to win it

## ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

although he has had several horses which have been placed in the event over the years.

Last year's race saw the gambled on *Gale Force Oscar*, which was qualified with the Llangeinor Hunt, run out a very easy winner under Welsh champion rider John Mathias. The Brecon and Talybont horse *Supreme Regime* was third.

Llanharan's Evan David, who has been in good form this season, is expected to be aboard *Patrickton Boru*. Evan, who rides out for Aberthir trainer Tim Vaughan, is the younger brother of Tom David who is assistant trainer to Zara Phillips.

### Race's history

WHEN the Dunraven Bowl was first held in 1996, it was won by *Miss Millbrook*, which gave Evan Williams the first of his three wins in the race. Evan, a former national champion point-to-point rider and now a leading Welsh trainer, also

won on *Cherry Gold* in 2003 and 2004 but when *Cherry Gold* won for a third time in 2005, Jason 'Awesome' Cook was in the saddle.

Another national champion point-to-point rider to win this prestigious race, only this time a female, was Pip Jones, who scored on *Final Pride* in 1997, while the only other female to win is Welsh champion Fiona Wilson, who won on the rank outsider *Saffron Moss* the following year, 1998.

Chepstow and Hereford course specialist *Mr Dow Jones* won under west Wales' Dai Jones in 1999. Keith Pritchard's prolific point-to-point *Cannon Bridge* silenced those critics who said it couldn't jump regulation fences when landing the 2006 renewal and Welsh champion point-to-point rider Rhys Hughes was successful on *Kilbreena* (2007) and *Bob Bites Back* (2009).

Rhys Flint was successful in 2008 on *Paul* and

Myfanwy Miles's *Lady Myfanwy*, one of Wales' most prolific point-to-pointers.

David Lovell's eight-year-old *Master Charm*, given a good ride by Tom David, beat *Minsgill Mans* in an exciting finish in 2010. The Lovell family dedicated their win to the late bookmaker John Lovell who was responsible for introducing computerised betting to the UK and who had been a great supporter of point-to-point racing and Chepstow racecourse.

In 2011, Pembrokeshire's Eric Clough's *Parthian Prince*, partnered by Paul Tolman, was later awarded the race after *Bob's Law*, which had finished first past the post, was subsequently disqualified by the BHA Disciplinary Panel.

In 2013, Matthew Barber, a 5lb claimer, riding the seven-year-old bay gelding *Hawkeye Native*, trained by his brother Marc at Narbeth, came home nine lengths ahead of Paul and Myfanwy Miles' *Findlay's Find* who recently notched-up his 22nd win.

Last year, Lee Power's nine-year-old brown gelding *Gale Force Oscar*, ridden by Welsh champion point-to-point rider John Mathias from Tenby, landed a big gamble when coming home 20 lengths ahead of *Supreme Regime*, with *Doc Wells* a further four lengths away in third place. *Gale Force Oscar* must surely go down in the records as one of the easiest winners of the Dunraven Bowl, the race that all Welsh owners, riders and trainers want to win.

## News from the Barrivale Bridge Club

**LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club for April 14 are as follows:**

The session coincided with the AGM for Barrivale and a celebration of the club's 28th birthday.

Birthday team results were as follows: First Team 2 - Peter Millar, Mick Green, Helen Jordan, Judith Owen and Noelle Bond with 49 IMPS; second Team 6 - Mike Close, Tim Barsby, Ann Macdougall and Sean Macdougall with 43 IMPS; third Team 3 - Huw Thomas, Celia Thomas, Tom Kendrick and Dave Thomas with 2 IMPS.

As from Friday, May 1, it is Barrivale Bridge Club's intention to hold regular morning sessions, commencing at 9.45am and finishing at 12.30pm. These will be assisted bridge sessions primarily for beginners, people wishing to return to the game and those who would like to improve their game.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. A partner may be arranged if required. If you would like to join us ring 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm or Friday, May 1 at 9.45am.

DR

## THE BARRY AND DISTRICT LADIES SKITTLE LEAGUE

**LATEST results for week commencing March 23:**

Space Finders (K Jackson 34) 338, Allsorts (H Bunting 39) 323; Cigar Ladies (K Richard 3) 239, Coppers (J Hartnell 35) 299; Bakers Dozen (A Boauy 28) 255, SV Gals (R Sowoll 30) 266; Family and Friends (M Ogston 29) 253, Barry Stars (T Johnson 23) 210; Family Affair (C Grubb 31) 265, Castaways (D Jones 26) 241; Pila Palas (A Williams 33) 314, Special Angels (T Grisdale 34) 309; Red Admiral (M Gee 29) 272, Colcot Ladies (P Johnson 32) 276.

Second division: Castle Bandits (E Evans 27) 240, Strikers (L Goodwin 24) 230; Cad Con Fillies (J Rogers, L Old 23) 233, Roller Coasters (J Ebbs 24) 217; Breakaways (N Bichard, C Smith,

J Davykins 30) 323, Witchill Widows (L Young 30) 284; Starlights (I Oliver 27) 249, Divas (S Gouvier 25) 147; Witchill Weebies (S Dobbinson 34) 331, After Eights (M Hellyar 39) 314; S V Lights (B Kenefick 26) 247, Clickies (K Davidson 24) 241; Bobby's Girls (A Seldon 29) 273, Vixens (L Gray 26) 241.

Third division: Lil's Devils (T Evans 25) 233, Rhosoe Ravers (J Bowsher, G Shellem 24) 220; Ectetera (M Jones 27) 248, Jolly Dollies (V Jackson 34) 261; Merry Makers (H Davies 25) 226, Airways Angels (E Lewis, M Carpenter, Bec Gibbs, L Taylor 21) 213; Friends and Neighbours (R Page 31) 247, Westenders (S Woodfield, C Gee 27) 247; Persuaders (K Phillips 29) 230, Hill Billies (E Anzani, G

Moorcroft 23) 198; Dolly Mixtures (J Preece, E Bryan 25) 235, Witchill Wanderers (S Reynolds 26) 181; SV Ladies (K Lacny 30) 255, Rugby Triers (D Sherrin 30) 268.

Fourth division: Wyndham Witches (P Cannon 26) 240, Odd Bods (S Ellis 23) 173; La Belles (R Clogg, N Cordy 31) 308, Twilights (S Ellis, S Davies 30) 291; Fallen Angels (T Lawrence 26) 255, Off The Rails (L Stephenson 30) 263; BFFs (R Bowen 24) 202, Railway Rogues (S Sjodin 30) 253.

Fifth division: Aristocats (T Weston 28) 211, Smurfs (Y Taylor 31) 116, Guardian Angels (G Fifield, L Harris 21) 185, Liberals (K Palmer 27) 198; Billy Bunters (G Loveless 28) 217, Hell Raisers (J Rosser 24) 213.

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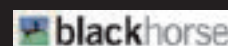


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# Porthcawl rugby round-up



Porthcawl senior team went down 22-6 against Pyle on Saturday - pictured ABOVE: Lloyd Long is pulled back, and RIGHT: Ollie Banner goes past a Pyle defender.

PICTURES BY TRACEY WILLIAMS



Joe Muir makes a last-ditch tackle to deny the Pyle winger as an expectant crowd look on!

**P O R T H C A W L** Ravens basically summed up their day; the attack was very good but the defence was not up to standard.

After starting strongly in attack, going three scores clear, they then let Ravens in and the game finished 4-4 with too many missed tags. The marker was set with Dewi, Sam and Ryan

pulling off some sublime individual moves, but more importantly they read each other's games well so when one got tagged the other was in place to finish off the move - a joy to watch.

The second game was against Bridgend Sports but after a team talk about improving defence it did not work, as again

they were better in attack but their defence did not hold out, letting in too many soft tries.

Next up was Tondur and they blew them away. Zane came out on fire tagging like a demon and getting a few runs; next was Dylan who had started quietly but was now demanding the ball and charging forward in

attack and defence, creating space for teammates and passing into space.

Next up was Oscar, who, when his confidence is high, plays the game at a different pace. This time on the first move he sidestepped three players, slowed down as he could not believe he was not tagged, and then realised he was in open space and ran as fast as Theo to score in the corner; this confidence translated into his tagging. Brody was superb all game, driving forward at every point and showing his quick feet.

Next up were Kenfig Hill and what a game as both sides played the ball out wide, and our famous burger move came off a treat with Dewi crossing after a great pass from Brody. Dewi was straight on the scoresheet again with multiple sidesteps and swerved, leaving three defenders stranded.

Kenfig knew they were in for a game but Porthcawl leaked a number of tries but both Ryan and Sam had something to say, scoring two quick tries. If our defensive line held we would have won this game and probably got through to the final.

Oscar picked up top tagger for great driving forward and tracking back followed closely by Sam and Dewi, and both he and Sam seemed to read each other's moves all day; they read the game so well popping up on each other's shoulders, exploiting space for each other, with Sam winning clubman

award for his all round game and the number of try saving tags he made.

This left the last game against Pencoe when we were on fire and our passing was awesome, really attacking the space and passing superbly with the majority of the team crossing for a proud finish to the day.

Phil's team's first game of tournament was against Pencoe and they started superbly with Theo on fire scoring two quick tries. Lex was not far behind with confidence and determination, running great lines all day, coming on to great angles when players were tagged to also get on the scoresheet and at one point knocking another player off their feet after taking a great angle.

Next up were Bryncethin with Lewis and Dexter charging up and Tom starting to gain confidence the more he plays. Lewis was his rampaging self with him and Lex jointly picking up the clubman award for energy in attack and defence; at one point Lex got four of the six tags in two plays, while Lewis was commended for his all-round game.

Next up were Tondur but the team fell to the same fate despite Lewis, Lex and Dexter throwing themselves around trying to save the game, in which we also lost Tom to another fall.

This left five players to face Maesteg but with confidence low we were not in the game. Last up were Bridgend Athletic

who, if they won, went into the final - it was time to fire up the team, who had to play with five again, but we had the support of other players to cheer them on.

The character of Porthcawl shone through - Joel was like a tiger pouncing on the opposition and having a few runs. Dexter charging up the line and Lex and Lewis tagging like there were 10 men on the field.

After Theo put us ahead, Bridgend came back but Lex took a great angle to score and Theo broke their heart with two quick tries coming from aggressive defence, turning the ball over and sprinting to score and picking up top try scorer for the winning try.

With less than a minute left all we had to do was to keep them

from scoring and we did; the defence was immense and we won 4-3.

Overall the character and team ethics we try and instil on our team came through coupled with some excellent passing and running.

There are two more home games left this season so let's keep up the spirit and skills. Also the club presentation is on May 22 and we will hold a under-8s social and celebration night similar to last year, date to be confirmed.

**UNDER-10S**  
Cwbridge 54, Porthcawl 83 - try scorers Stefan Yardley (5), Rhys Tunnadine (2), Josh Woodbridge (2), Joe Dingle, Luke Roberts, Noah Eastment and Tejay Vickery.

MR

## Bradley is rider on form at point-to-point steeplechases

**BRADLEY GIBBS (20)** from Ynysybwl, who rides out for Aberllyn National Hunt trainer Tim Vaughan, was in cracking form at the Llangeinor & Pentryrch Hunts Point-to-Point Steeplechases at the Dunraven Stud, Llanmihangel Farm, at Pyle near Bridgend, where he rode a four-timer (see GLYN EVANS' pictures on page 27).

Three of those wins, on BringInTheBranson, Bajan Blu and Only Time'll Tell, were on horses owned and trained by the stud's owner, Mr David Brace OBE.

After finishing unplaced in the opening young horse maiden on Dunraven Doc, won by Evan David on the Robert Luke trained Midnight Grace, owned and bred by show jumper Steve Hadley, Bradley's first win came in the blinkered BringInTheBransonoutjumped his four rivals to score by eight lengths from the odds-on favourite Tiger Rag (James Tudor).

Then in a match for the members' race, Bradley, on Bajan Blu, made nearly every post a winning one when just holding on

from the odds-on Banned In Bhutan (James Tudor) by a neck to deny Cyril Liley a first win in the race.

Cyril, one of the joint-masters of the hunt, has been trying to win this race for years as an owner and a rider and has been runner-up on nine occasions!

Mr Kristen Jacka's six-year-old bay gelding Mr Sawyer gave Bradley his third win of the day when winning the restricted by a head from the favourite High Hatton (James Tudor).

Mr Jacka, a Treorchy shop keeper, said: "He won a maiden at Lower Machen last year, and he loves this quick ground. I fancied him that much that I had a good bet on him at 25-1."

Bradley's fourth winner of the day came in the open maiden race in which on the always prominent OnlyTime'll Tell he led at the second last to beat the best turned out Perky Bob (Nick Williams) by one and-a-half-lengths.

David Llewellyn's homebred prolific Rosies Peacock, under regular rider Welsh champion John Mathias, had the men's open race won a long way out and came home 10 lengths ahead of Heavenstown, ridden by former national champion James Tudor, who had a frustrating run of seconds. James cannot be that many winners short of his 250th

win.

Super Villan, a 10-year-old chestnut gelding and a former winner under National Hunt rules, gave Nelson farmer Paul Webb and his trainer son Ceri their first win when landing the ladies' open race by one-and-a-half lengths from Teenage Kicks.

Confidently ridden by Emma Moseley, Super Villan was wearing cheek pieces for the first time. "That was awesome," said Emma on dismounting.

The odds-on favourite Lauberhorn, ridden by Anna Metekohy, was left with too much ground to make up and slipped up on the last bend when coming with a late dash.

The organisers did well in watering the course during the week before racing and were rewarded with more runners than they could really have expected.

The crowd certainly appeared to be enjoying the racing and despite a cold wind during the early part of the day, many could be seen picnicking and plenty of people stayed behind to see David Brace's 13-year-old grandson Connor win both pony races, the 138cms on his bay mare Molly, who is the same age as his rider, and the 148cms & under open pony race on his 8-year-old bay mare Dont Tell Dai.

BRIAN LEE

## Dan punches to success!

**L L A N T W I T** MAJOR boxing club continued its run of success last weekend, with heavyweight Dan Morgan winning a split decision contest against Highfields boxer Mathew Smith.

The contest took place at the RAFA club in Ely. Smith, being a local boxer with the home town advantage, stepped back into the ring for his first fight in four years after injury setbacks. The bell sounded for

the first round and Morgan started bright, putting Smith on the back foot immediately.

The second round saw much the same high work rate with both boxers still busy, barely stopping for breath.

The final round saw Morgan tire a little bit and the pressure eased off allowing Smith to connect with a couple of clean shots. The Llantwit Major boxer reacted well and dug deep to finish off the round strongly, doing enough to take the victory from the local lad.

KM

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## Bridgend Athletic prosper in their bonus point win

WITH a 33-21 away win at the Dairy Field under their belts, Bridgend Athletic recorded a seasonal double in the local derby against Llanharan.

This time the Athletic outscored their neighbours by six tries to four in a bonus point 34-24 win. The Athletic went into the game without forwards Rod Apsee, Dan Apsee and Darren Degueria, who were representing Malta in a 22-5 win over Israel.

Llanharan opted to play the first half into the teeth of a very strong wind. The Athletic kicked off deep into the Dairyman's 22 and forced a five metre lineout.

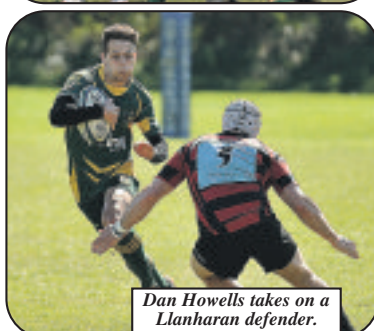
Hooker Nathan Holman found captain Sean Williams with the throw and the Athletic did the rest, driving their neighbours over the whitewash for Williams to touch down in the first minute.

The Athletic continued to make life difficult for the taller and heavier Llanharan pack forcing them in the fifth minute



ABOVE: Griff Davies prepares for impact, while RIGHT: Man of the match Lyndsey MaCausland forces his way through.

PICTURES BY GLENNSPORTS



Dan Howells takes on a Llanharan defender.

to concede a five metre scrum. The lighter Athletic pack, through the front row of Holman and props Matthew Norman and Matt Muir, drove the scrum over the try line for No 8 Griff Davies to touch down. Outside half Robert Evans fired over a difficult conversion to increase the score to 12-0.

The Athletic were on top but a number of knock ons and forward passes in good positions prevented them increasing their lead. Llanharan broke out of defence and in the 20th

minute kicked a penalty into touch five metres from the Athletic line. They gave the Athletic a dose of their own medicine by driving the line out forward for lock Jack Davies to cross for their opening try. Normal service was resumed as good driving play by locks Lloyd Griffiths and Tom Penry-Ellis set up a ruck 22 metres from the Llanharan try line.

The ball was recycled via half backs Jake Williams and Robert Evans for wing Lyndsey MaCausland to enter the line at speed and show great strength to carry tacklers over the try line. This was a carbon copy of a try he scored against Llanharan at the Dairy Field. Robert Evans converted to stretch the lead to 19-5.

Young scrum half Jake Williams showed great strength to rip a ball out of an opponent's hands inside his own half. Full back Dan Howells seized on the loose ball and beat a number of defenders with sheer pace before handing on to man of the match wing MaCausland to run in from 30 metres out for the Athletic's bonus point try and enable them to go in at halftime leading 24-5.

The second half was Llanharan's opportunity to have the considerable wind advantage. However it was the Athletic who dominated the first 20 minutes of the half. Outside half Robert Evans made two breaks that saw only last ditch tackles keep the Llanharan line intact.

Centres Tom Morgan and youth player Shaun Wilcox were also prominent, while the excellent back row of Ben Howe, Sean Williams and Griff Davies hounded Llanharan to prevent them breaking out of their own half. Another Evans break saw Sean Williams on his shoulder to release wing Stuart Griffiths to dive over in the corner.

On the hour another

five metre catch and drive from the Athletic resulted in Groundhog Day as once again Sean Williams was the man driven over the try line to extend the lead to 34-5.

The Athletic then rang the changes with youth players Matthew Bennett and Zach Evans, along with Matthew Hillman and Wayne Fooks, introduced in the pack and scrum half Aled Thomas came off the bench for the backs.

Llanharan then came back into the game. From a five metre scrum they went blind for scrum half Nick Theaker to dive over in the corner. Full back Geraint Llewellyn converted to reduce the deficit to 34-17.

Llanharan were given a further boost when Athletic centre Tom Morgan retaliated to an elbow in the face and saw red for punching. Llanharan took advantage of an extra man and the wind to score two late tries from Morgan Williams and Mike Thomas and a conversion by Llewellyn to make the final score 34-24.

avoid relegation.

The Athletic are now on 56 points for the season and a win against Tondur or Narbeth on May 2 at the Bridgend Ford Brewery Field will help them surpass their previous best Championship point's tally of 59.

Things are looking good long term for the Athletic with a good blend of youth and experience. They have blooded Matthew Bennett, Zach Evans and Shaun Wilcox from this season's youth, while half backs Jake Williams and Josh White and lock Lloyd Griffiths from last season's youth team have all established themselves in this season's squad.

**BRACKLA 2ND XV 0  
BRIDGEND  
ATHLETIC 2ND XV 36**

**Bridgend Athletic 2nd XV secured a bonus point away victory over their Brackla counterparts in a Mid Glamorgan Premier league fixture.**

Leading try scorer Harry Griffiths moved his try tally to seven for the season with a single try. Other try scorers were Lewis Davies, Matthew Tellem, Kyle Coulter, Jamie Sidford and Scott Govan, who also converted three of the tries.

The win was based on a solid performance by the pack, while centre Hywel Roberts excelled in defence.

AB



PICTURED: (standing, left to right) Rebecca Murray, Sophie Wellington, Demi Brady, Emma Hobby. (Kneeling, left to right) Chloe Dyke, Meghanne Davies, Megan Jeffrey, Bethan Johnson.

## NETBALL TEAM TAKES TOP PRIZE

**BRYNTEG Comprehensive senior netball team have had a very successful year.**

They have won all of their school matches and then progressed through the President's Cup district and county rounds with ease.

Finishing on a high they went on to win the Welsh final in Swansea. They

came up against some tough opposition from Haberdashers, Monmouth School and Gower College.

All of the girls played superbly throughout the day. Emma Hobby was awarded the 'player of the tournament' for Brynteg School.

PD

## Bridgend bridge club results

**THIS season has seen several Bridgend teams join leagues for the first time.**

We have had mixed success in the Western Area League, but our one team in the East Wales League (playing in Division 2 of 3) is undefeated, winning all its league fixtures and about to play a first round match in the Handicap Cup against a first division side.

Congratulations to Linda Pinnock, John Evans, Marjorie Morris, Bill Turner, Ann Fox and Steve Burgoyne on a fine record.

The results for recent events are: Wednesday, April 15 - 1st John Beard and Liam Sheridan, 2nd Steve Burgoyne and Ann Fox, 3rd Irene Thomas and Graham Jones. Winners on handicap Norma and David Newman.

Thursday, April 16 - 1st Vanessa Beacham and Barrie Jenkins, 2nd Susan Hunt and Colin Lewis, 3rd Leila O'Hagan and Diane Reynolds.

Friday, April 17 - North/South - John

Evans and Tony Disley, East/West - Jane Brook and Wendy Williams. Winners on handicap North/South - Dian Jones and Pat Cogbill, East/West - Jane Brook and Wendy Williams.

Regular club nights take place on Wednesday and Friday evenings at Noltan Church Hall. Play is scheduled to commence at 7pm so it helps if players arrive at least 10 minutes early.

On Thursday afternoons at 2pm, also at Noltan Church Hall, there is a gentle duplicate session. Master points are now awarded but it remains a relaxed occasion where players enjoy their bridge.

Further information can be obtained by calling Steve Burgoyne on 01656 661968, John Evans on 01656 880372 or David Newman on 01656 649138.

Members can also take advantage of the 'tip of the week' on the club website, primarily to assist new players and improvers; this can be found under bridge lessons in the left hand menu.

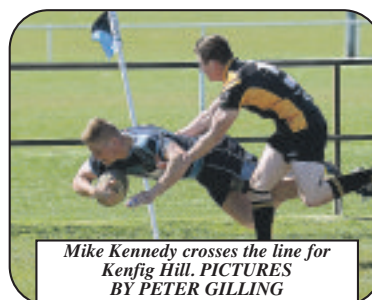
TG

## Kenfig Hill RFC put on a show against Builth Wells team

**A sunny afternoon with a strong wind and a hard dusty pitch that was perfect for ball handling and not kicking suited the Mules' strong backline in this game against Builth Wells.**

An early yellow card for the Mules led to a penalty for Builth Wells. Kenfig Hill responded with two quick tries by Aaron Grabham and Mikey Kennedy, neither converted. The Builth Wells forwards did not lie down, however, and the pressure grew on the Mules' defence, eventually leading to a try for Ashley Evans that was closely followed by a converted penalty try.

Again Kenfig Hill responded well, scoring three more tries which included a first half hat-trick for Aaron Grabham, the halftime score Kenfig Hill 31, Builth Wells 15. The second half started with a bang with Kenfig Hill second row Jason Davies going over for a try converted by Nicky Giles. The Builth Wells forwards again responded with another penalty try as their prop Neil Jarman proved that



Mike Kennedy crosses the line for Kenfig Hill. PICTURES BY PETER GILLING



Aaron Grabham beats a would-be tackler.

you do not have to be huge to be effective. Although Builth Wells 'won' the second half, with the wind at their backs Kenfig Hill finished strongly to run out the winners by 41 points to 27.

Kenfig Hill scorers: tries - Mike Kennedy (2), Aaron Grabham (3), Jason Davies; penalties - Nicky Giles; conversions - Nicky Giles (4). Builth Wells scorers: tries - Ashley Evans, Luke Murray; penalties - Dale Jones; conversions - Dale Jones, Joe Barrett. DHD